

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Hopeful Sign

THE official Soviet reply to President Eisenhower's proposals for international control of atomic energy, though largely couched in equivocal phraseology, makes at least one thing clear—that Russia is willing to join the United States and other interested Powers in confidential and diplomatic discussions. The Kremlin could hardly be expected to go further at this stage. It would have been asking too much for them to categorically accept in toto Mr. Eisenhower's plan inasmuch as it does not, at this moment, provide for the abolition of atomic weapons. International outlawing of atomic war weapons has been the constant theme of the Soviets since the subject of their control by an international body was first mooted in the United Nations Organisation. And it is noticeable that the Russians are harping on this point in their reply to the Eisenhower proposals. Thus, while it is encouraging to find the Kremlin making a positive response to the President's invitation, it would be unwise to expect rapid results from the confidential discussions when they take place.

THE essence of the Eisenhower plan is that the Powers who possess the secrets of atomic energy should, step by step, put into effect a method for its eventual international control. To achieve this, Mr. Eisenhower suggests that in the first place existing stocks of atomic and fissionable materials should be placed in a pool and made available to the world for peaceful purposes. The Soviet reaction to this idea suggests that they are suspicious of the motives behind it. They continue to make use of the familiar innuendo that the "imperialists" intend to retain atomic war weapons for the purpose of keeping the world in a state of suspense and agitation. Therefore the first task of the Western Powers when the confidential talks begin will be to convince the Russians that there is no ulterior or hidden motive behind the Eisenhower plan; that it is a genuine attempt to solve the dangerous problem of atomic control; and that it is the most realistic way of eventually bringing atomic energy in all its forms under appropriate international supervision.

U.S. ACCEPTS RUSSIAN OFFER

Ready To Join In Atomic Negotiations

DULLES' PLEDGE

Washington, Dec. 21.

The United States tonight accepted Russia's proposal to join in negotiations on President Eisenhower's dramatic plan for the peaceful international development of atomic energy.

The Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, pledged that this nation will "explore every possibility of securing agreement and bringing President Eisenhower's historic proposal into the realm of creative action."

But Mr. Dulles also said the Russians did not seem to have "caught the spirit of President Eisenhower's proposal" when they complained that it would "not remove the threat of atomic weapons." He said Mr. Eisenhower's plan actually is intended as a first step in that direction.

Mr. Dulles made the statement in reply to a Russian statement announcing Soviet "readiness" to join in negotiations on the President's plan. The Russian offer was handed to US Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen in Moscow.

Mr. Eisenhower proposed in a Dec. 8 speech before the UN General Assembly that the U.S., Britain, Russia and Canada funnel fissionable materials to an international agency for peaceful atomic development.

Diplomats said the next move will be for the United States to approach the Russians and make arrangements for starting the private atomic talks. Officials were unable to say when or how that move might be made.

The President's idea is that if some degree of co-operation could be worked out under this plan, it might then be possible to move on toward still thornier atomic issues.

ISSUE EVADED
The Russian statement, which Mr. Bohlen relayed to the State Department here, asked for further explanations of the Eisenhower plan and said anew that international control of atomic weapons is necessary to world peace.

Once again, it evaded the issue of international inspection which the United States insists be a part of any world atomic control programme.

Despite this, some members of Congress were hopeful that the conciliatory tone of the Russian statement might lead to an easing of world tensions. However, most still were wary of Russian intentions.

Mr. Eisenhower received the first word of the Russian reply to his proposal while in conference at the White House with Mr. Dulles and Defence Secretary Charles E. Wilson. The President was handed a United Press dispatch quoting the Moscow statement.

Even before receiving the text of the Russian statement, the State Department issued a statement saying it would "naturally be very pleased" if the Soviets want to negotiate.

Then, Mr. Dulles spent most of the afternoon preparing his carefully worded statement which was read to reporters by the Department Press Officer, Mr. Henry Suydam.—United Press.

Russia's 5 New Deputy Premiers

London, Dec. 21.
Moscow Radio tonight announced the appointment of five new Deputy Premiers.

The new Deputy Premiers are:
M. Z. Zaborov, Chairman of the State Planning Commission.
M. G. Pervukhin, Minister of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry.
I. E. Tevosyan, Minister of Metallurgical Industry.

V. A. Malyshev, Minister of Medium Machinebuilding.
A. N. Kozlov, Minister of Manufactured Consumer Goods.
Present Deputy Premiers appointed to the Soviet Government on March 6 last are M. Molotov, who is also Foreign Minister, Marshal Bulganin, who is also Minister of Defence, M. Kaganovich. At that time Beria, now facing trial as a traitor, was also made a Deputy Premier.

A Deputy Premier in Russia is "Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR." The exact functions of a Deputy Premier have never been clearly defined. In theory he can preside at a session of the Council of Ministers in the absence of the Chairman (which formerly was Stalin, and now is Georgi Malenkov). In practice, however, one of two or three senior Vice Premiers would be in the chair at a Cabinet session if Malenkov were not there. This senior Deputy today is Mr. Vyacheslav M. Molotov.

The Ministers whose new appointment were announced tonight made a gain in status and authority as a consequence of becoming Vice Premiers. The new Ministers are mostly younger men who were regarded (Contd. on Back Page, Col. 1)



M. Laniel Offers To Withdraw

French Presidency Deadlock

Versailles, Dec. 21.

Premier Joseph Laniel, losing ground steadily in his bid for the French Presidency, said tonight he would withdraw from the race if all government Parties agreed on a compromise candidate.

M. Laniel made the statement shortly after leaders of French political Parties were summoned in an effort to break the Presidential deadlock by agreeing on just such a candidate.

"I am ready to retire if I can get all Parties of the majority (government) to agree on the name of a candidate who can realise a union of Republicans," said M. Laniel. Premier Laniel lost ground steadily today in his bid for the French Presidency and all Parties were summoned to select a compromise candidate to "save the Republic."

A roar of applause came from every National Assembly Deputy and Senator as the chairman, M. Andre Le Troquer, called on leaders of all political Parties to meet him tomorrow.

The duty of Left, Right and Centre, he said, was to "decide on a man to save the Republic."

LOSES VOTES

The announcement came after an unprecedented 10th ballot had failed to resolve the deadlock. M. Laniel slipped further away from his goal for the second straight time and appeared incapable of amassing the necessary majority to win the post.

M. Laniel won 413 votes on the ninth ballot this morning and only 392 on the 10th. He had gained strength steadily from the fourth ballot onward to the eighth, when he captured 430.

His strongest competitor, Socialist Marcel Edmond Naegelen, also lost ground today.—M. Naegelen received 358 votes on the 10th ballot and 365 on the ninth. On the eighth ballot last night he had won 381.

Before the 10th ballot, the Democratic and Social Resistance union announced that its 32 members would not participate. The abstention reduced the absolute majority needed on the 10th ballot to 434, or 42 more than M. Laniel received.—United Press.

CRIMINALS

PUT ON XMAS PLAY

Plymouth, Dec. 21.

Britain's most dangerous burglars, highjackers and murderers put on a Christmas play last night and a bishop who dropped in said they were as reverent as any audience he had ever seen in a cathedral. The convicted, serving long terms in Dartmoor, wrote the play "Three Kings" and took almost all the parts. A prisoner who was an artist before running foul of the law painted the scenery.

The Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt. Rev. Norman H. Clarke, said the way in which the play was received by the hardened outlaws "emphasises the message it has for all the community."

"I have seen dozens of nativity plays in cathedrals, churches and village halls—but never have I witnessed one performed before a more reverent audience," he said. "It forces one to reflect on many things."

The play described how the Wise Men followed a star which led them to the stable in which Jesus was born. A convict choir sang Christmas carols behind the stage as background music. The stage backcloth rose to allow viewers to see a crib set before the altar. The altar was decorated with holly which the pickpockets, fences and dope-dealers had gathered from Dartmoor's gloomy, mist-covered moors.—United Press.



Picture above shows the burnt-out fuselage of the American Navy plane which crashed at Kai Tak this morning.—Staff photographer.

PLANE CRASH AT KAI TAK

THREE PERSONS INJURED

Three passengers were injured, one seriously, when a United States Navy P2V Neptune aircraft from Sangley Point, Philippine Islands, crashed on runway 013 while landing at Kai Tak at 9.35 this morning.

There were altogether 14 persons on the plane.

The aircraft crashed and skidded for some 400 yards before it stopped and burst into flames.

COURAGEOUS ACTION

Kuala Lumpur, Dec. 22.

A Malayan Home Guard, Jafar bin Salleh, attacked five armed Communist terrorists with a big knife when his wood-cutting party was waylaid in the Jelapah district of Negri Sembilan, according to reports received here.

The woodcutters—three Home Guards and two civilians—were walking along a narrow track when stopped by the Communists who carried rifles, a shotgun and a sten gun. The Communists tried to seize arms and shotguns being carried by two of the Home Guards when Jafar struggled and slashed at them, cutting one in the face. He was shot in the arm by another Communist. One of the civilians rushed forward with his knife, but was shot dead.

The Communists then made off.—China Mail Special.

Bridge Spotted On The Moon

London, Dec. 21.

A mammoth bridge 20 miles long and more than 2,500 feet wide has been discovered on the moon, Dr. H. Percy Wilkins, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society and Director of the lunar section of the British Astronomical Association said here tonight.

Speaking over the BBC, the scientist described the lunar bridge as a strange object which seemed artificial. It has one arch suspended between two mountains and it dominates the plain from a height of 1,500 yards.—France-Press.

BROKEN RICE BAN

Singapore, Dec. 22.

The Singapore Government has decided to ban the import of broken or cargo rice until further notice, Mr. T. M. Hart, Director of Commerce and Industry, announced here. This is to enable the Government to dispose of heavy stocks which it can supply cheaper than that from terminal sources. Mr. Hart said it would be pointless to decontrol rice if it were found soon that the price went up because the trade could not get it as cheaply as the Government.—Reuter.

Kai Tak Disaster

Ends Bottle Stunt

Linz, Austria, Dec. 21.

An Austrian stunt man who lived more than a year in a giant glass bottle—with 14 snakes was ordered to bed today to recover.

Rudolf Schmied, who billed himself as "Fakir Rayo, the human genie," muffled himself in a black cape last night and hammered his way out of the man-sized jug in which he had squatted 53 weeks and toured 100 European cities.

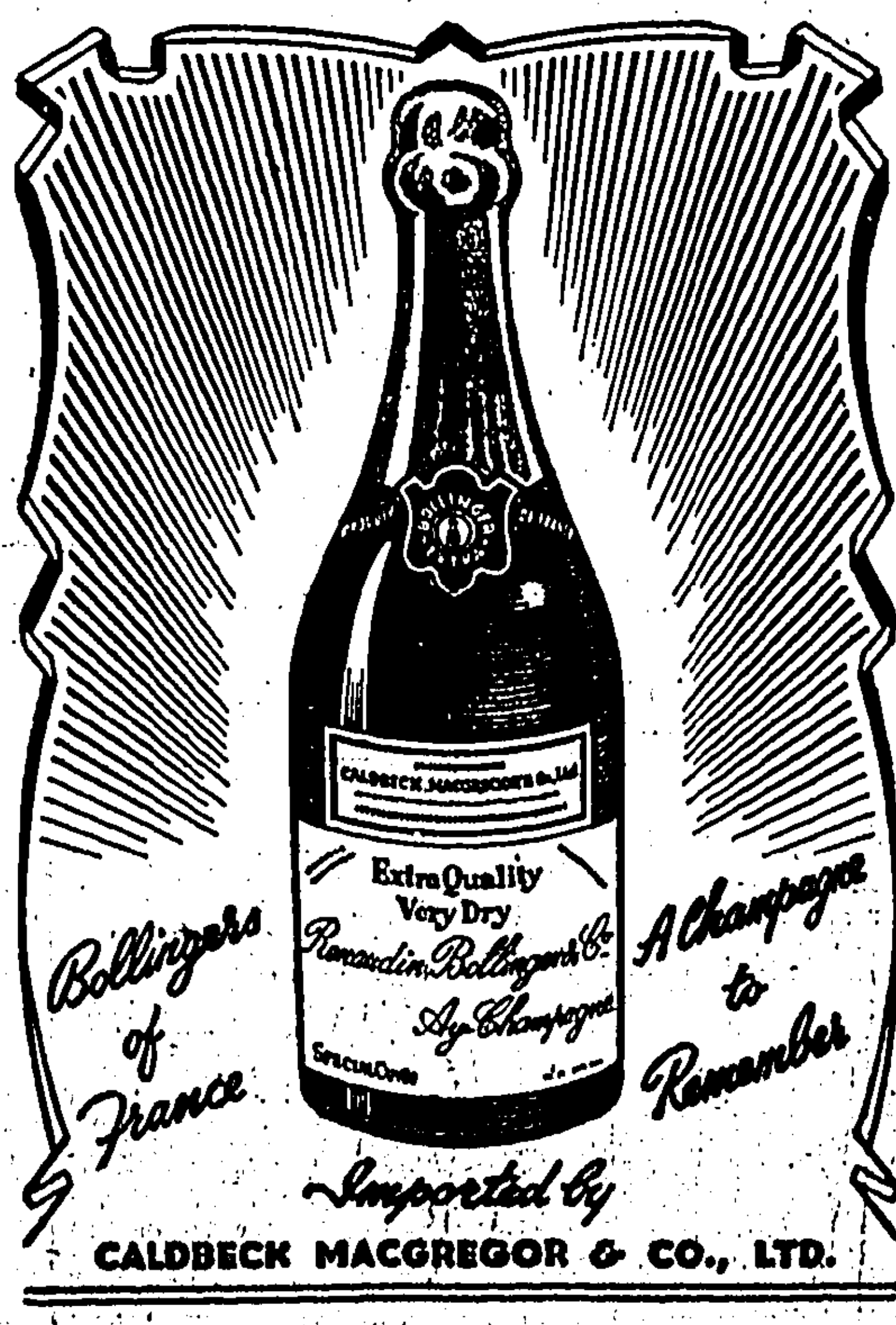
A crowd of 300 watched him burst into the open air in a spray of splintered glass. A doctor said Schmied, 53, has lost 60 pounds and that his eyesight had dimmed.

The doctor described him as "weak as a hothouse plant" and prescribed an immediate meal of rare beefsteak at a Linz inn. Then Schmied was put to bed. "I just want to sleep," he said.

All of his 14 snakes died during the marathon stunt in the bottle. Schmied ate nothing but fruit, fruit juice and vitamin pills during the 53 weeks. Schmied's bottle, about six feet tall, was welded together after he entered it last December. The neck was left open to give him air.—United Press.

High Order For General Franco

Vatican City, Dec. 21.
Pope Pius XII today conferred on General Francisco Franco, the Spanish Chief of State, the Supreme Order of Christ, one of the highest orders ordained by the Catholic Church.—France-Press.



Bollinger's
of France
A Champagne to Remember
Imported by
CALBECK MACGREGOR & CO., LTD.

SHOWING
TO-DAY
KING'S MAJESTIC
Commencing
To-morrow
AT 2.30—5.15—7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

There's nothing to it...but can you do it?

Talk about talent—he walks thru walls!

Mr. Peek-a-Boo

John Greenwood, a famous comedian, and featured in "MR. PECK-ABOO" Directed by John Greenwood. Produced by John Greenwood. Screenplay by John Greenwood. Based on a story by Marcel Aymé. Released thru United Artists.

PRINCES
FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

WEI WAI YEN TSUN
"An Actor's Romance"
Directed by Wong Ying
秋海棠
A GREAT EARTH Super Production

A Chinese Picture in Mandarin Dialogue

TO-MORROW ONLY REPEAT PERFORMANCE
"FROM HERE TO ETERNITY"

KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE
COMMENCING THURSDAY

Funniest of Comed Teams!

MILITARY POLICEMEN

STARRING
BOB MICKEY HOPE-ROONEY
MARILYN MAXWELL
EDDIE MAYEHOFF

— STANLEY CLEMENTS • JACK DEMPSEY • MARVIN MILLER
Produced by HARRY TUCKER • Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL • Story and Screenplay by NAL HANSEN and JACK SCHER • A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

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CAPITOL LIBERTY
Till THIS THE HOME OF HOLLYWOOD'S BEST PICTURES Tel: 5613
CAPITOL TOWN BOOKING OFFICE:
Wing Hong Firm, Hong Kong Hotel, Queen's Road, C.

LAST 2 DAYS
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

M-G-M's MUSICAL ROMANCE OF RIO!

LANA TURNER
RICARDO MONTALBAN • JOHN LUND • LOUIS CALHERN

COMMENCING DEC. 24 (THURSDAY)

Get aboard THE BAND WAGON
Technicolor
RED AGAR • GYD CHARBONNE
OSCAR LEVANT • NINETTE FARRAR • JACK BUCHANAN

China Unlikely To Resume Korean Fighting, Says Dean

Washington, Dec. 21.

The State Department today denied reports that special Ambassador Arthur Dean had reported a warning by the Chinese Communists that they were going to resist with force any Indian attempt to turn loose unrepatriated prisoners on January 22.

A State Department spokesman said Mr. Dean, who had been trying to arrange a political conference with the Communists in Korea, believed the Chinese had no intention of resuming hostilities or threatening the Indian guard.

Mr. Dean is now in Washington, having returned here last week for consultations. He left behind in Korea his deputy, Mr. Kenneth Young, Chief of the North-East Asian section of the State Department. Mr. Young would remain in Korea to be immediately available in the event of talks with the Communists resuming.

Big Farewell For A Lucky Baby

London, Dec. 21.

Baby Boko, the surviving Siamese twin from Nigeria, was on her way home today and hundreds of rain-soaked Londoners turned out to give her a rousing farewell.

It took Mrs. Veronica Davies, her 24-year-old mother, more than half an hour to get through the crowds.

Eventually she and the baby entered a limousine and drove off to the airport. A great cheer from the crowd followed them as they began the first stage of their journey to Kano, Nigeria.

Mrs. Davies said the staff and Professor Aird "today have given Wariboko a new life. I will never be able to thank them enough."

The Evening Standard, in its editorial today, also paid tribute to the staff involved in giving Boko "a new life."

RACIAL PREJUDICE

The Standard, which recently has been distressed by the racial prejudices of some London hotels which refuse accommodation to coloured people, said in its editorial: "At Hammersmith Hospital the best brains and the best resources, skill and attention of the highest order were good enough for Mrs. Davies' children. And in the neighbouring borough of Kensington half the second rate hotels and more of the first rate ones would ordinarily have seen Mrs. Davies in Nigeria sooner than give her a bed for the night."

"Every second of this drama was heightened by the stark contrast between white science and its intolerance between the honest and impulsive recognition of human need on the one hand and hateful prejudice and condescension on the other."

"Boko will grow to womanhood a living testimony to white enlightenment." — China Mail Special.

EMPIRE MAJESTIC
FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

RAW RAMPAGING EPIC
OF THE
RAILS
THAT
RUPTURED
THE
WEST
WIDE
OPEN!

KANSAS PACIFIC
WALTER BRADY
STARRING
STERLING HAYDEN

Also Latest Paramount News at Empire

• ONE SHOW ONLY •
India's Super Production
"JOHARI"
Starring GEETA BALI
Commencing on Friday,
25th Dec. At 12.00 Noon
At The
Cathay
BOOKING NOW OPEN

US Airman Refuses To Pay

London, Dec. 21.

An American airman who refused to obey a Court order to support the illegitimate child of an English girl brought a show-down today in the High Court of England which may affect the rights of all GIs in Britain.

The High Court agreed to hand down a ruling in its session next month on whether airman Robert Warren can be arrested on the order of an English court for failing to pay.

An American spokesman said that in the past the English Courts had ruled that such cases were a matter for American authorities.

Mrs. Mary Josephine Smith of Truro, England, claimed that Warren was the father of her baby. Warren, who is married and lives in Liverpool, claimed he was not.

A letter from American Air Force authorities, read in the High Court this morning, said he could not be forced to pay unless an American Court decided he was the father.

SANTA CLAUS will be in the CIRCUS BUSCH BERLIN

TO-NIGHT TO DISTRIBUTE
Free Gifts to All Boys & Girls
also
5 VALUABLE PRIZES

2 SHOWS DAILY AT 6.00 & 9.00 p.m.
Sundays extra performance at 3.00 p.m.

Prices: Adults from \$2.40
Children from \$1.50

Bookings: 10 a.m.—12 noon
WING HONG FIRM, H.K. HOTEL BLDG.
from 12 noon
at the CIRCUS GROUNDS, Causeway Bay.

BRING YOUR KIDDIES ALONG
TO MEET SANTA CLAUS TO-NIGHT.

TUDOR
by ROLEX
a name to remember
IF YOU WANT TO REALLY PLEASE HER THIS CHRISTMAS!
FROM Love, Comrades OR OTHER LEADING WATCH DEALERS

POP

I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE OF THESE SCENES!

I'M GETTING SO NERVOUS THAT I'M LOSING WEIGHT!

THEN WHY DON'T YOU STOP STAGGERING THESE THINGS?

I WILL WHEN I GET MY WEIGHT DOWN TO NORMAL!

Punch line

She sees clearly all foreground things.

CHINESE OPTICAL CO.
OPTICIAN
Newtons' Method

Anchor Caught A "Duck"

Tokyo, Dec. 21.

American navy quarters reported today an American trawler in Korean waters, the Bladenhoe, caught a "duck" with its anchor.

The duck was a seven-ton amphibious vehicle, nicknamed the duck, which was presumed to have lain at the bottom of the harbor at Incheon since American landings there in 1950. — China Mail Special.

New Type Of Fish: Say Russian Scientists

London, Dec. 21.

Russian scientists today claimed to have found "a new type of fish" which is "scaleless, jellylike with a round pinkish white head."

It was caught at a depth of 7,250 metres between Kuriles and the Kamchatka Peninsula during an oceanographic expedition organised by the USSR Academy of Sciences, according to Tass, the Soviet news agency.

The fish was about 25 centimetres long.

Tass quoted Professor Theodore Rass, who was in charge of the ichthyological studies of the expedition, for the details.

The agency said the presence of life at depths ranging from 8,000 metres to 10,000 metres—"the greatest encountered in oceans"—had been proved by the expedition.

Another "unknown fish," caught by the expedition was "a small fish with luminous dots all over its body," named gonostoma vityaz, in honour of the expedition ship.

Professor Rass said this discovery was striking because deep-water fish hitherto known had been dark coloured. The fish was the colour of bronze.

A deep sea eel with a very long thin body and long jaws, resembling the beak of a snake, previously unknown to ichthyologists, was also among the expedition's catches, Rass added.

China Mail Special.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA
TODAY & TOMORROW

"Between Wife and Husband"
Yung Hwa's Comedy of the Year!
間之婦夫
Introducing
Miss Chan
Yuen Hwa
A Chinese Picture

OPENS THURSDAY

NEW GLORY FOR GARY!

BLOWING WILD

GARY COOPER
BARBARA STANWICK
ANTHONY QUINN
RUTH ROMAN

LEE Theatre GREAT WORLD

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
LAURENCE OLIVIER SINGS FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THE SCREEN

LAURENCE OLIVIER
at Macmillan's Highgate
"THE BEGGAR'S OPERA"
TECHNICOLOR

ROXY & BROADWAY
The ROXY TOWN BOOKING OFFICE has removed temporarily to Room 108, National Bank Bldg., 1st Floor, Tel. 20946.

OPENS TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

HERBERT J. YATES
WOMAN THEY ALMOST LYNCHED
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Starring
John LUND • Brian DONLEVY
Audrey TOTTER • Joan LESLIE

ROXY & BROADWAY

The ROXY TOWN BOOKING OFFICE has removed temporarily to Room 108, National Bank Bldg., 1st Floor. Tel. 20946.

GALA PREMIERE

AT 9.30 P.M. TO-MORROW.

20th Century-Fox presents

THE NEW DIMENSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC MARVEL
YOU SEE WITHOUT GLASSES!

CINEMASCOPE

The Greatest Story of Love
and Faith Ever Brought
to the Screen



The Robe

TECHNICOLOR

Book Early To Avoid Disappointment!

ROXY 5 SHOWS ON FRI., SAT., SUN. & FRI., NEW YEAR
(25th, 26th & 27th Dec. & 1st Jan., 1954)
Extra Performance At 12.00 Noon.

BROADWAY 5 SHOWS FROM 24th DEC. DAILY
Extra Performance At 12.00 Noon.

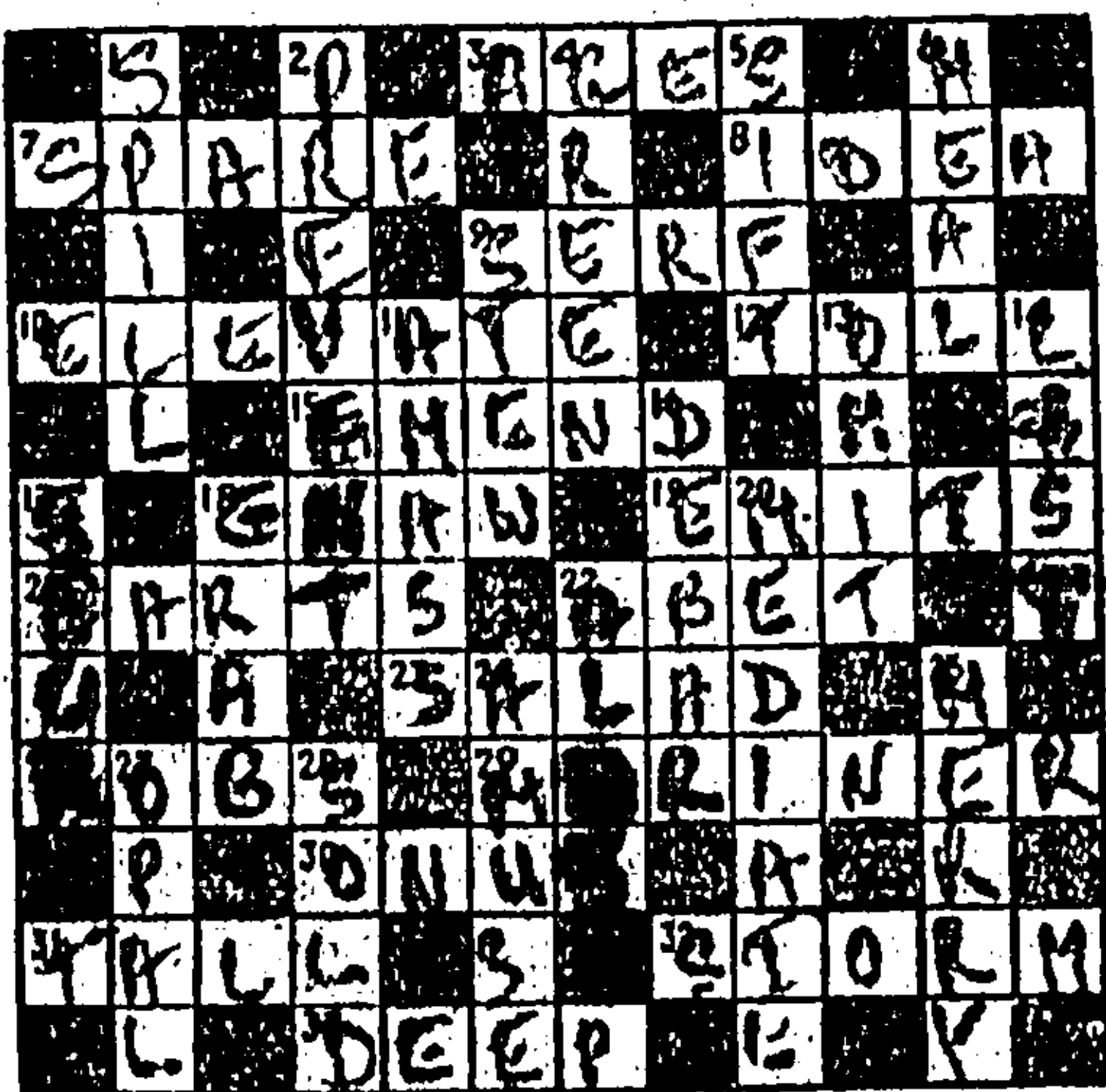
Complimentary Tickets Are Not Valid For This Picture.



CHRISTMAS OFFERS

Special X'mas Menu
\$10 per person
CHRISTMAS GIFTS
Tender Turkey, Confectionery,
X'mas Cakes
ORDERS UNDERTAKEN
DINNER MUSIC
10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- 3 Grows old (4).
 - 7 Lean (5).
 - 9 Nolon (4).
 - 10 Slave (4).
 - 11 Exalt (7).
 - 12 Tax (4).
 - 15 Revise (5).
 - 18 Chew (4).
 - 19 Radiates (5).
 - 21 Separates (5).
 - 22 Encourage (4).
 - 23 Cold vegetable dish (5).
 - 26 Plunders (4).
 - 29 Bailor (7).
 - 30 Responsibility (4).
 - 31 Latty (4).
 - 32 Tempest (5).
 - 33 Profound (4).
- DOWN
- 1 Upset (5).
 - 2 Render impossible (7).
 - 4 Inexperienced (5).
 - 5 Sort out (4).
 - 6 Repeat (4).
 - 9 Simmer (4).
 - 11 Hoard (5).
 - 13 Leave out (4).
 - 14 Catalogue (4).
 - 16 Excludes (5).
 - 17 Good (4).
 - 18 Clutch (4).
 - 20 Go between (7).
 - 22 Exclamation of woe (4).
 - 24 Divert (5).
 - 25 Jovial (5).
 - 27 Precious stone (4).
 - 28 Disposed of for money (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 1 Pastor, 7 Raps, 9 Shift, 10 Bribe, 11 Dons, 13 Rejoined, 15 Noat, 18 So-so, 19 Contrasted, 22 Stop, 24 Arena, 25 Nerve, 26 Tier, 27 Salmon, 29 Amis, 30 Tutor, 31 Rabbit, 32 Tridents, 33 Open, 34 Abode, 35 Shred, 36 Rites, 37 Troopers, 38 Score, 39 Goals, 40 Abyss, 41 Torso, 42 Tail.

AFTER MALAN, WHO?

Premier May Retire Next Year

Pretoria, Dec. 21.

With reports rife that Dr Daniel Malan will relinquish leadership of the South African Nationalist Party Government after his 80th birthday in May, political observers today forecast a struggle between two ministers for the succession.

They are the 71-year-old veteran Minister of Finance, Mr Nicholas Havenga, a moderate and the Nationalist's "strong man" Mr Johannes Strydom, 60, Minister for Lands, regarded as an extremist and republican, who is little known outside of South Africa.

A third minister, the 53-year-old Minister of the Interior, Mr Eben Dönges is given an outside chance.

ALLEGED MISUSE OF DOLLARS BY KOREA

Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 21.

U.S. Representative Charles B. Brownson today alleged that Korea was using its slim foreign exchange to build a luxury hotel in Seoul while 25,000 people were homeless after the Pusan fire.

The Indiana Republican, who recently returned from a tour of Korea, said Korean President, Syngman Rhee, was to blame for the misuse of dollar funds, Rhee, he said, "aspires to be Korea's George Washington."

The Congressman said that Rhee was "neither an angel nor the devil incarnate, but a fired, patriotic old man."

Mr Brownson said that while United States taxpayers poured in money for drugs, food and essentials, some \$2,000,000 of Korea's foreign exchange was being spent for materials to create a luxury hotel to include bars, cocktail lounges, garden rooms and a Western steak restaurant, "all at the insistence of President Rhee."

Mr Brownson charged that "while Korean foreign exchange and UN technical staffs are diverted at the whim of one man, technical assistance to the hungry, freezing people must wait."—United Press.

U.S. Inspection Of Jap. Arms

Tokyo, Dec. 22.

Lieutenant-General W. B. Palmer, Assistant Chief of Staff, accompanied by an army Ordnance Chief, arrived in Japan early in December and inspected leading munitions plants in Japan.

Informed sources commenting on the visit of the high ranking officer, said his inspection tour may have something to do with off shore purchases under proposed Mutual Security Aid Agreement between the United States and Japan.

Lieutenant-General Palmer, accompanied by ranking officers of the Far East Command, visited on December 13, the Kobe Steel Corporation and the Komatsu Works, before going to Korea, the sources said.

After the General returned from Korea, he inspected last week the Sagami Industry Company.—Reuter.

Behind the conflicting chances of these men for the future leadership of South Africa is an involved story of individual loyalties, geographical affinities and mixed party ambitions for the future of the country.

Though all represent the dominant Afrikaner who wants, sooner or later, a Republic, each man would set a very different pace in the next few years.

Political observers divide the Nationalist Party mainly in terms of those who are for or against Mr Strydom as the next Prime Minister.

Doctor Malan and Mr Strydom who has a considerable following in the party are seen by many to be leading rival factions in the Government party.

PREFERS HAVENGA

Prime Minister Malan is believed to be trying to secure either Mr Havenga or Mr Dönges as his successor in preference to Mr Strydom.

When the Nationalist Government was re-elected last April for a second period of five years, many doubted whether Dr Malan would carry the responsibility of the Premiership much past his 80th year.

The first step towards his retirement from active politics was seen in his recent surprise withdrawal from leadership of the Cape Province branch of the Nationalist Party, a position which he had held for 38 years since 1915, when the Nationalist Party was formed in the Cape Province.

POLITICAL BALANCE

Some suggest that Dr Malan would be happiest to hand over his office to Mr Havenga, a man well esteemed internationally who might also prove the best compromise acceptable to all conflicting groups in the party.

Apart from his long political experience at home and overseas, Mr Havenga, who comes from the Orange Free State, could also provide the necessary political balance between the ambitions of north and south in the Nationalist Party.

If Mr Strydom assumed power immediately after Doctor Malan, many believe that political controversies would only be intensified.

Certain opponents of the Government see in Mr Havenga their best hope for political collaboration, however small, over recurrent differences affecting the colour bar, the courts and the constitution.

Some even see time working in favour of an era of political peace if the Nationalist right wing is kept out of authority now.

STRYDOM ULTIMATELY

But if the Nationalists remain in power, as they are expected to do for some time, many feel certain that Mr Strydom would ultimately, if not immediately on Doctor Malan's retirement, become Prime Minister of South Africa.

His chances of succeeding Mr Havenga as Prime Minister, if the Finance Minister were

elevated to the Government leadership, are certainly considered better on present assessment than those of Doctor Dönges.

Doctor Dönges, who is known overseas as a spokesman for South Africa in the United Nations, has not held the same rank in the party since the failure of the abortive High Court of Parliament Bill which was designed to turn Parliament into a High Court with the final word over the state's highest courts on constitutional legislation.

Under Dr Malan's present regime, Mr Havenga is accepted as Deputy Prime Minister. When both Dr Malan and Mr Havenga went to the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in London this year, Mr Strydom acted as Prime Minister. That still appears to be the line of succession.—China Mail Special.

Canadians To Attend Talks

Ottawa, Dec. 21.

Top officials of the Trade and Finance Departments will accompany Finance Minister Douglas Abbott to next month's meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers at Sydney, Australia, it was learned today.

Mr William F. Bull, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Mr John J. Deutsch, Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance and Chief of the Economic Policy division, are two of the experts Mr Abbott will take with him, a spokesman for the Minister's office said.

It was probable that a Bank of Canada representative—an authority on exchange problems—would also be in the group.

Mr Abbott will leave by plane on December 20. He will have gone about a month and plans to visit India and other countries after the two-week Commonwealth conference.—United Press.

UN Postpone A Vote

New York, Dec. 21.

The United Nations Security Council tonight postponed a vote on the Western Powers' resolution authorising Major-General Vagn Bennike, Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation in Palestine, to try to resolve the Jordan river dispute between Israel and Syria.

The decision to adjourn until 1000 GMT, tomorrow came after Mr Andrei Vyshinsky, the Soviet delegate, had severely criticised the resolution sponsored by Britain, France and the United States, and had suggested that Israel and Syria themselves should be left to try to settle their differences.—Reuter.

Germans Go With The Calico

Sydney, Dec. 21.

While man's diseases—including the common cold, dysentery and measles—have now penetrated to the isolated Pacific Isle of Tikopia, 600 miles east of the Solomon Islands.

Mr James Spillias, Canadian anthropologist, reported this on his return here after 15 months on the island.

"The natives want the white man's calico and implements—so they have to put up with his diseases," he commented. "It is inevitable."

Mr Spillias, staff member of the Australian National University, Canberra, spent part of his time at Tikopia with Professor Raymond Firth, another member of the University, who was checking on changes since his last visit there 25 years ago.—China Mail Special.

Russia Asked To Open Cross Points In Germany

Bonn Dec. 21.

The three Western powers today proposed to the Soviet occupation authorities the re-opening of some border crossing points between East and West Germany, usually well-informed sources here reported tonight.

In identical letters to the Soviet High Commissioner, M. Vladimir Semenov, delivered in Berlin today, the Western Allies proposed the re-opening of certain roads and rail crossing points closed by Soviet authorities in recent years.

Details of the number and location of the crossing points proposed for re-opening are not known, but it is believed that cross points between West Berlin and East Germany were not involved.

Western observers speculated whether this Allied move might be part of the "jockeying for position" before the opening of the Berlin Big Four conference early next year.

Though no Soviet reply has yet been received to the Western Allied proposal to hold the conference on January 4, West German and Allied experts have begun detailed examinations of the problems likely to occur.

This latest Allied proposal, diplomatic observers thought, might be a further move to avoid being caught on the wrong foot in the eye of German public opinion once the conference started.—Reuter.

SANTA STOPS A FIRE

Hempstead, N.Y., Dec. 21.

Santa Claus stepped out of his "sleigh" in nearby Lake View last night, put out a fire in an empty home, and then got back to work distributing his Christmas largesse to the community's youngsters.

Santa and his helpers—all Lake View firemen—were riding a fire truck on their Christmas journey when they discovered the fire.—United Press.

the eternal captivator—



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"Triumph And Tragedy" Chapter 33

SERIOUS CRISIS IN THE LEVANT

By Sir Winston Churchill

THE liberation of France led to a serious crisis in the Levant. It had been evident for some time that a new treaty would be needed to define French rights in this area, and on my way home from Yalta I had met the President of Syria in Cairo and urged him to make a peaceful settlement with France.

The Levant States had been unwilling to start negotiations, but we had persuaded them to do so and conversations had begun. The French delegate, Gen. Beynet, went to Paris for instructions, and his proposals were awaited with anxiety and excitement throughout Syria. Delay occurred; no proposals arrived; and then news spread that French reinforcements were on their way.

On May 4 I had sent a friendly message to de Gaulle explaining that we had no ambitions of any kind in the Levant States and would withdraw all our troops from Syria and the Lebanon as soon as the new treaty was concluded and in operation, but I also mentioned that we had to keep our war communications throughout the Middle East free from disturbance and interruption.

We represented to him that the arrival of reinforcements, however small, was bound to be looked upon as a means of pressure, and might have serious consequences. This advice was not accepted, and on May 17 French troops landed at Beirut.

AN explosion followed. The Syrian and Lebanese Governments broke off negotiations and said that, now the war was over, the Allies would be asked to evacuate all foreign troops. Anti-French strikes and demonstrations began. Eight people were killed and 25 injured in Aleppo. The Syrian Chamber of Deputies ordered conscription.

A Foreign Office announcement of May 26 regretting the arrival of French reinforcements drew a reply from Paris next day that the disturbances were artificially provoked and that many more British

troops had also been moved in without protest by the Syrians or the Lebanese and without agreement by the French. We had in fact appealed to the Syrian Government on May 25 to keep control of the situation but on the 28th they told us that events were too much for them and they could no longer be responsible for internal order.

French shelling had begun in Homs and Hama; French armoured cars were patrolling the streets of Damascus and Aleppo; French aircraft were flying low over the mosques during the hour of prayer, and machine-guns were mounted on the roofs of buildings.

AT about seven o'clock in the evening of May 29 fierce fighting began in Damascus between French troops and Syrians, and continued for several hours into the night. French artillery opened fire, with serious loss of life and damage to property, and French troops occupied the Syrian Parliament buildings. Shelling continued on and off till the morning of May 31, and about 2,000 people were killed and injured.

The Governor of Homs had already appealed to the British Ninth Army to arrange a truce. It was now impossible for us to stand aside, and on May 31 Gen. Sir Bernard Paget, Commander-in-Chief Middle East, was told to restore order. He communicated our request to the French commander, and the latter, on instructions from Paris, proclaimed the "Cease fire." I sent the following message to Gen. de Gaulle:

In view of the grave situation which has arisen between your troops and the Levant States, and the severe fighting which has broken out, we have with profound regret ordered the Commander-in-Chief Middle East to intervene to prevent the further effusion of blood in the interests of the security of the whole Middle East, which in-

volves communications for the war against Japan.

In order to avoid collision between British and French forces, we request you immediately to order the French troops to cease fire and to withdraw to their barracks. Once firing has ceased and order has been restored we shall be prepared to begin tripartite discussions in London.

BY an error in transmission, and with no intentional discourtesy, this message was read to the House of Commons by Mr Eden about three-quarters of an hour before it reached the General. He felt obliged to issue a public reply in Paris on June 1, saying in effect that the French troops had been attacked by the Syrians, but had everywhere gained control, and that the French Government had themselves ordered a "Cease fire" on May 31.

A vehement protest reached me from the President of the Syrian Republic. But the action we had already taken proved effective. I was most anxious not to vex the French more than was inevitable and I understood de Gaulle's view and mood about a cause for which he felt passionately.

BUT he also struck a statesmanlike note. "We feel," he said, "not the slightest rancour or anger towards the British. France and myself have the highest regard and affection for them. But there are opposing interests, and these must be reconciled. I hope all this will not have too far-reaching consequences. There are too many common interests at stake. There must be peace."

I was in accord with this view, and when I gave an account of these regrettable incidents to the House of Commons on June 5 I said it was a case of "the less said the better."

Prime Minister to Gen. Paget 3 June 45.
 As soon as you are master of the situation you should

show full consideration to the French. We are very intimately linked with France in Europe, and your greatest triumph will be to produce a peace without rancour. Pray ask for advice on any point you may need, apart from military operations.

In view of reports that French soldiers have been killed, pray take the utmost pains to protect them.

And to the Syrian President, whom I deemed a sensible and competent man:

Now that we have come to your aid I hope you will not make our task harder by fear and exaggeration. The French have not to have fair treatment as well as you and we British, who do not covet anything that you possess, expect from you that moderation and helpfulness which are due to our disinterested exertions.

Our intervention was immediately effective. On June 3 the French garrison at Damascus was withdrawn to a camp outside the city, and a British detachment which had been landed at Beirut from H.M.S. Arctura arrived in the Syrian capital on the same day.

ON June 4 Mr Shone, our Minister at Damascus, delivered my message to the Syrian President, who took it well and sent the following reply:

I sent my message of May 31 to Your Excellency under stress of bombardment and of deep emotion at the sufferings which the Syrian people were undergoing, and which I assure you were no exaggeration. Your Excellency will have received my message of June 1 expressing the gratitude of the Syrian people for the intervention of the British Government, and I and my Government have assured His Majesty's Minister and the Commander-in-Chief that our one desire is to co-operate with the British authorities in their task of restoring order and security in Syria. Your Excellency can be sure that this co-operation with the British authorities will soon have its good results.

"The President," said Mr Shone, "who was ill in bed when he sent his message of May 31, is now up again and seems fully composed. He is in full accord with you and deeply grateful. As regards fair treatment for the French, he said they could have their schools (if any Syrians still wanted to go to them) and their commercial interests, but neither the Syrian Government nor the Chamber of Deputies could ever give them any privilege in this country after what had happened."

Gen. Paget handled the situation with much discretion. All passed off smoothly, and this difficult and untoward Syrian episode came to an end.

A smaller though not less vexatious dispute arose between de Gaulle and President Truman. In the closing days of the fighting troops of the First French Army in the Alps region crossed the frontier and moved forward into North-Western Italy, in the province of Cuneo. Orders were presently issued by Gen. Eisenhower for their withdrawal. These orders were ignored by the French units concerned under the authority of their Government.

ON May 30 Gen. Doyen, commanding the French Army in the Alps, sent a letter to Gen. Crittenden, commander of the United States IVth Corps in North-Western Italy, referring to an attempt to establish Allied military government in the province of Cuneo. The letter ended with the following paragraph:

France cannot consent that a modification against her will to the state of affairs in the Alps Maritimes. This would be contrary to her honour and her security. I have been ordered by the Provisional Government of the French Republic to occupy and administer this territory.

This mission being incompatible with the installation of an Allied military agency in the same region, I find myself obliged to oppose it. Any insistence in this direction would assume a clearly unfriendly character, even a hostile character, and could have grave consequences.

On June 2 Gen. Crittenden received another letter from Gen. Doyen:

Gen. de Gaulle has instructed me to make as clear as possible to the Allied Command that I have received the order to prevent the setting up of Allied military government in territories occupied by our troops and administered by us by all necessary means without exception.

"This was astonishing language to use in all the circumstances. 'Is it not rather disagreeable,' I wrote to the President, when Alexander reported the facts, 'for us to be addressed in these terms by Gen. de Gaulle, whom we have reinstated in liberated France at some expense of American and British blood and treasure? Our policy with France is one of friendship.'"

Gen. Doyen was indignant. He wrote to de Gaulle pointing out that the message contained the kind of double threat which French troops bearing American arms would not accept, and that Allied soldiers whose efforts and sacrifices had enabled France to be liberated should not be used to threaten the French people.

This incident immediately reached de Gaulle who told his Foreign Minister.

Obviously there has been an intention either in the eyes of the French or in those of the Americans to force the presence of American troops in the small areas which French troops occupy at present, to the end of the 1935 frontier between France and Italy. Besides, American troops are now in those areas side by side with French troops, and here as elsewhere good comradeship prevails.

Tomorrow morning Gen. Juin will proceed to Field-Marshal Alexander's headquarters to deal with this matter in the broadest spirit of conciliation in order that a solution may be found.

Thus the matter ended, if not pleasantly, at least without another quarrel. The British public whose attention had been distracted from world events by the General Election, were not troubled by these affairs.

(Continued Tomorrow)

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The new Health Service contributor to the Egyptian newspaper Al Gounhouria does a 'Dancing Major' act to persuade his Shadow Cabinet to extend the Health Service.

London Express Service



JACOBY ON BRIDGE

'Finessomania'—Can Ruin You

By OSWALD JACOBY

ONE of the worst diseases that can attack a healthy bridge player is finessomania. Every body has seen the symptoms. The player is unable to resist a finesse, even if it means jeopardising (or losing) his contract. In today's hand we see a very case of this ailment.

West opened the ten of hearts, and declarer carefully won the trick in dummy with the queen of hearts in order to finesse the jack of spades. This play may have been careful, but it was far from successful and even farther from sensible.

West won with the queen of spades and brilliantly returned a club. South won with the ace of clubs and returned the ten of spades, but West was not to be deceived. West promptly put up the ace of spades and led another club, forcing out dummy's king.

South still had the king of spades in his hand and was never able to get back to dummy to cash the nine of spades. He thus succeeded in making only one spade trick, three hearts, and two tricks in each of the minor suits.

NORTH 24
♠ 532
♥ 243
♦ 53
♣ K73

WEST 10987
♥ 10987
♦ J8
♣ 842

EAST 84
♥ 52
♦ K1097
♣ QJ109

SOUTH (D)
♠ K10
♥ AKJ
♦ AK12
♣ A65

North-South vul.
South West North East
N.T. Pass S.N.T. Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead—♥ 10

As I have hinted, the spade finesse was just so much nonsense. South should have won the first trick in his own hand with the king or ace (thus making sure that he could get to dummy later by means of the queen of hearts). South's next step is to lead the king of spades, deliberately giving up any chance of finessing in that suit.

South, doesn't care who takes the ace of spades, since he still has two stoppers in each of the side suits. If the defenders switch to clubs, South will take the ace of clubs and lead the jack of spades.

Assuming that the defenders promptly win again and force out dummy's king of clubs, South can unblock the offending ten of spades and still get back to dummy through the queen of hearts in order to cash the nine of spades. South is thus quite sure to make nine tricks no matter how the defenders wriggle or squirm.

CHARD SENSE

Q—The bidding has been: South West North East
1 Heart Pass 1 Spade Pass
2 Clubs 3 Clubs 3-2
You, South, hold: Spades K-8-3-2, Hearts A-Q-J-7-5, Diamonds A-Q, Clubs 3-2. What do you do?

A—Bid three spades. This 1-bid shows strong support (four cards or more) for your partner's suit, with a total count of 17 or 18 points. In this case you have 10 points in high cards, 2 points for the doubleton, and 1 point extra for the king of your partner's suit.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-8-3-2, Hearts A-Q-J-7-5, Diamonds A-Q, Clubs 3-2. What do you do? Answer: Tomorrow.

DUMB BELLS

DO YOU KNOW THE MEANING OF THE WORD COLLUSION?

YES! I WAS IN ONE ONCE IN AN ALTO MORGUE

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

BORN today, you have a facile mind and one which is interested in a multitude of things. You must be warned against superficiality. To you, it seems more important that you know a little about a lot than a lot about any one subject. You are determined, and undaunted when it comes to any kind of brain work, calling for the use of your intellect. But you can be downright lazy, if someone wants a job of physical labour done.

Actually, you will find that your life would be better well spent if you were to indulge in some physical activity—even if it is nothing more than going for a walk outdoors, once in a while. You are inclined to utilize your nervous energy to the hilt, and you are taking a break. Discipline yourself to work at an even and steady pace rather than rushing madly now and then stop perfectly still when you get tired.

You get tired! Be sure that you always get your full quota of sleep, for you are not one to take other people's confidence. You make all your plans and work them out before letting anyone know what is cooking! As a result, you often surprise even your closest friends and relatives.

You women are attractive to members of the opposite sex and will probably have several offers of marriage. Be sure that you select the right one, for an error could bring great unhappiness. One of your temperaments must be "sure" the first time.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your horoscope and read it. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Complete essential duties early in the day, for when afternoon and evening comes, you will have other plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 18)—Even with festivities so near at hand, you probably need to pay attention to business today and tomorrow.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)—This can be an evening of pleasant entertainment, either at your home or with close friends. Have real fun.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—May be more than just a walk outdoors, once in a while. You are inclined to utilize your nervous energy to the hilt, and you are taking a break. Discipline yourself to work at an even and steady pace rather than rushing madly now and then stop perfectly still when you get tired.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—If you have been busy, your Christmas shopping and making may be in all done and you can watch others!

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Sit back and take a deep breath of relaxation—if everything for Christmas is finished. Enjoy yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 21)—If you have been planning a Christmas party, you must be sure that every last detail is ready.

CROSSWORD

Across
1. A schoolboy sees the world through this. (5)
2. Eat meat between an egg. (5)
3. One rule from child's game. (5)
4. Legal reason. (4)
5. Is that pie for me? (4)
6. The I.A.P. would accept this sort of information. (3)
7. A girl's car. (3)
8. Say it's true to a T. (5)
9. In a school shop? (4)
10. Is the end in a married life? (4)
11. Swearing of senses, there's one on the tip of my tongue. (5)
12. Travel permit. (4)
13. The distance to Tipperary? (4)
14. For... farwell, Casius! (Blakespoet). (4)
Down
1. It... get in (anag.). (5)
2. Eat meat between an egg. (5)
3. See how they do it on the stage. (3)
4. "Shunning" troops may make them so. (5)
5. Was it a strike that did this to the girls? (5)
6. England could have been, ex-changed for one once. (5)
7. Musical instrument. (5)
8. Behaviour before an orchestra. (5)
9. A story may have one after the other. (5)
10. The Angier (Comptel) would do this at the end. (3)
11. Did you get the end of a home. (4)
12. See what. (3)

SOLUTION TO CHECK YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

WHAT'S HIS LINE? TOM RAITES

Rearrange the letters to spell his occupation. (Solution on Page 10)

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

A CUNSORY glance at present-day advertisements should convince anyone that culture and shrewdness can be delicately combined in a television programme.

Take Wagstaff's Unbreakable Eggs. You see a picture of Cleopatra coming down the Nile in her barge, and you read Shakespeare's description of her, and then the passage in St. Augustine's "The City of God" (Book 2, Chapter 12) which describes the fall of the city of Carthage. This comes the sting in the tail of the Serpent of Old Nile. You can safely drop Wagstaff's Eggs from the dome of St. Paul's.

The expedition does not start slightly north-east of Chimpulco. It lies the mysterious land of "Mystery" and "Mystery" which the film company has ever-trod. Through this perilous country Strabismus and Grishm must hack their way through the territory of the uninvited Maltosa tribes, where Zuluia is to be found. They finally, broad-shouldered little men who live on tree-bark, soaked in swamp-water and can mutter the cry of a queue-die or the hunk of a giant tree-bush. To establish friendly relations Strabismus had secured a word or two of their dialect, but when he thought he was saying "Let us go forward" he was in fact saying "Greetings, reptiles." So they stalked, Grishm, who tried sign language, evidently used a wrong sign for "Let us go forward" and the green lights to change to brown.

Dr. Rhabarb's corner. I. D. writes: My wife used to laugh when I wiggled my nose before her. She said, "You are a Rhabarb." I, after breakfast, before going to the office, as a treat, don't let her get sick of it by doing it too often.

As Mr. Merlin blew, the balloon grew and grew.

magie to it," he told Knarf and Hand later. "It was just a matter of blowing."

But Knarf and Hand knew better. No one could blow a little balloon into a big balloon unless he was a real magician like Mr. Merlin.

They didn't come down until it was time for dinner. Then Mr. Merlin let the air out again and the balloon became as small as it had always been.

"There really wasn't any magic to it," he told Knarf and Hand later. "It was just a matter of blowing."

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But Knarf and Hand knew better. No one could blow a little balloon into a big balloon unless he was a real magician like Mr. Merlin.

They didn't come down until it was time for dinner. Then Mr. Merlin let the air out again and the balloon became as small as it had always been.

WOMANSENSE

Party guide to parents

USUALLY it's the children who get the least say in how to run a children's Christmas party. Well, here for parents are the ideas of a 10-year-old. Silence, please, for Victoria as she gives her views on the points that make or mar a party for little girls of her age.

DRESS "I like a white dress best." (Victoria's choice: White muslin, with a frilled, square neck, full skirt, and a wide scarlet velvet sash.)

FOOD "A lot of big cakes are a waste of time. They never get eaten. People like a lot of sandwiches (eggs are the most popular, then fruit), and one big cake—honey cake or chocolate, or walnut. Chocolate biscuits always get eaten specially if they are finger.

"For things to drink, orange juice or lemonade, not milk or tea, because we have them every day."

BOYS "There's no point in having boys—they become a worry. If you have one or two with a whole lot of girls from school, they just stand around and talk to each other.

"What about dancing? It's silly for people of my age. The boys refuse to dance, and nobody knows how to anyway, and nobody has any fun at all."

GROWN-UPS "They shouldn't be allowed much at parties. And they must not be allowed to play the games because they guess too quickly, and that spoils the fun."

ENTERTAINERS "Grown-ups who do conjuring tricks are no good for people my age because there is always someone who knows how they do it. If you can have them, films are the best."

GAMES "Those games with paper and pencils where you have to remember things on a tray get boring. The best party I was at started with a game called 'Spider's Web'. The whole room was like a spider's web, with threads of tape twisted all over the place. Each person had a little bit of wood, up to look like the real thing, and you had to wind it up, following your bit of tape all round the room, under chairs, and behind cupboards, and when you got to the end it was tied to a little present.

"We had lovely treasure hunt ones with clues in rhyme hung all over the house. Murder, charades, and dressing-up are good too. We put on all mummy's make-up once and had a present time."

BIG PRESENTS "Approved by Victoria, painting-by-numbers game (you fill in square 10 with green, and so on until it makes a picture); a zither, equipped with a chart

that shows you how to pick out tunes; pogo sticks and stilts.

SMALL PRESENTS A colourless magic wand; a square of fake chocolate that squirts water; a joke fried egg; and a conjuring trick (getting a penny through a piece of glass in a box).

FOR decorating the table Victoria likes black and white cotton wool penguins with flat feet and red beaks; bunches of cherries and pears, coloured scarlet and yellow, and covered with glittering tinsel.

And as sweets for the tree and the table she plumps for Father Christmas cardboard boots, covered with red cloth, that have hollow insides to fill with sweets; packets of 10 chocolate cigarettes, all wrapped up to look like the real thing; and candy walking sticks of red and white striped sugar, with a big red satin bow.

White sherry looks more attractive in a decanter. It tastes equally good if poured straight from the bottle. But when drawing the cork—and this applies to all wines—make sure that no fragments break off to fall into the wine. Draw a cork smoothly, after all dirt or dust about the bottle's neck and mouth have been removed.

Red and white wines—especially if they are old—may need decanting as they gradually form a deposit within the bottle. These will remove every trace of film from a glass surface and give glassware a decorative opulent sheen. Make sure, naturally, that after being washed with the detergent, the glasses and decanters are rinsed in pure water and then thoroughly dried with a clean, soft towel. Tasty wines, tastefully served, will go a long way to enhancing the guests' enjoyment of an evening's hospitality.

—(London Express Service)

Wines To Support Your Christmas Menu

London. It is, however, important to treat red and white wines in different fashions when these are being served. The wines should on no account ever be shaken, as this stirs up the sediment, and for the same reason they should be decanted with great care—at least an hour before the meal. Don't decant the sediment itself.

Connoisseurs will say that red wines should be served at room temperature, but many people prefer them slightly warmer. Never heat the wine by placing the bottle in hot water, however, as this ruins the bouquet.

By contrast, white wines should be slightly cooled—easily achieved by placing in a refrigerator for an hour or so (or at least in a cold larder). But ice must not, of course, be placed in the wine itself.

Port is the traditional drink with which to conclude any Christmas celebration, and a bottle of excellent tawny port is ample for six people to have a couple of drinks apiece. Port should be stored like other red wines and decanted several hours before serving.

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WEST HAM v. NOTTS COUNTY



Ernie Gregory, the West Ham goalkeeper, punches clear from a Notts County attack during the match at Upton Park.

Also in picture from left are West Ham defenders Allison (centre-half) and O'Farrell (left-half). On right is Johnston the Notts County centre-forward. Notts County won 2-1.

Four Nations Have Submitted Their Complete Entry List For The Asian Games

Manila, Dec. 22.

Of 15 nations which have signified their intention to participate in the Second Asian Games to be held here next May 1-9, four have already submitted their entries for each event, it was learned from the Asian Games Committee yesterday.

These countries are Indonesia, which has the smallest entry, 24 including two officials, will compete only in men's track and field, basketball and boxing.

Other nations which have not yet submitted their entries are Japan, Nationalist China, Hongkong, Israel, Korea, Ceylon, Singapore, Iran and Pakistan.

Meanwhile, it was learned that a general meeting of the committee, scheduled for April 30 and May 5, to discuss whether the Games should be held under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee, will be preceded by individual meetings on April 21.

France-Press.

Soccer's Bosses Must Be Tough

Says DESMOND HACKETT

London.

The Football Association councillors—honest chaps that they are—just about found themselves guilty at their meeting on December 14 of aiding and abetting Hungary in their famous victory over England.

In this moment of soul baring they sentenced themselves to meet again on February 1 and with good New Year resolution try to bring up to date the way we prepare for international matches.

There Soccer chieftains, who have the courage to admit that they are included among the guilty men who allowed English football to trail behind, are going into the whole shooting match.

They will talk training plans, preparations, and play-

ers for the England No. 1 team and the "B" team. It is an outline piece of damage to repair. I am just wondering where they will start.

Maybe they will get really tough with the players, tough with clubs who are reluctant to loan their stars, tough with the internationals in pre-match training.

I only hope they will not forget to be tough with themselves and get out a sound plan of campaign before we meet the new masters of Soccer in the World Cup series in Switzerland next June.

RELUCTANT CLUBS

Maybe our coaching is out of date, maybe we could use a little advice and help from men of experience of Continental and world football.

Before the shocked squeal goes up that we do not need foreign trainers, let me command three sturdy Britons

who would be delighted to help England.

Ready and eager to help out are: George Raynor, Yorkshireman—coached the Swedish team that held Hungary to a draw in Budapest.

Dennis Neville, lively ideas man—doing a first-rate job in Belgium with a bunch of amateurs who really do put in a day's work before training.

Randolph Galloway, ex-Derby County forward—1950: coached Montevideo club Penarol when they had eight players in Uruguay's World Cup winning team. 1951-53: set a record by coaching the winners of the Portugal championships for three years in a row.

BRIGHT MOVE

Apart from the Christmas raffle for places in the third round of the Cup the most important job of work completed was the decision that in future all "B" team players will be under 23 and have not appeared in more than one full international.

His, hip a-blooming ray. There is no future in touring the near thirties. We are already burdened by years. This really gives the young men their big chance.

Dates are already arranged for this new-style "B" team—and I hope that B will stand for bright boys. The diary includes away to Italy on January 20, in Switzerland on March 21, and a couple of matches in May.

I like the match date at Highbury on Cup Final eve (April 30): England "B" v. a team of England internationals.

Now is the big chance to bring out the lush old-timers, the Hagans, the Mannions, the Lawtons, Finney and Matthews, to see if their slightly ancient craft can teach anything to the young new masters of the trade.

Which would be your team from the present crop of England honoured vintage footballers?

—(London Express Service)

Rugger Match Tomorrow

By "PAK LO"

Surg. Cmdr. McClintock's XV meets HMS Tyne in a rugger match at the Club ground on Wednesday, kick-off at 4.30 p.m.

Surg. Cmdr. McClintock is well known in rugger circles in Hongkong for his very capable refereeing and his great interest in the game. Many well known players are turning out in this game and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance.

It will be Lt. Gerard's last game in the Colony. McClintock's XV is a blend of older experienced players who do not now play regularly, such as Forrester, Minto, Roberts, and more active players like "Wink" Smith, the Navy captain, and Bob Craig, Club captain.

HMS Tyne recently returned from Japan where the ship's XV had numerous matches with other ships and also with Japanese sides. The XV contains three players of the Navy team.

The teams will be: Surg. Cmdr. McClintock's XV—J. Henderson (Club), Lt. Cor. Harford (Navy), Lt. Smith (Navy), Lt. Davies (Navy), Lt. Gerard (Army), Lt. Roberts (Club), Lt. Craig (Club), G. Forrester (Club), G. Minto (Club), Surg. Cmdr. McClintock (Navy captain), Lt. Elliot (Navy), G. Minto (Club), E. Russell (Navy), G. Mackenzie (Navy), Surg. Cmdr. (D. Mackenzie) (Navy).

HMS Tyne—Tel. Abbott, Lt. Sen. Nicholson, Sgt. Moore, P. O. Tel. Henderson, Lt. A. Hawkins, Lt. (S) Hedding, Lt. (S) Harvey, Tel. Benson, A. B. Gorman, Lt. Sig. Durbin, Mid. Hoyle, Surg. Lt. Elliot (captain), P. O. Charlack, Sub. Lt. (S) Robertson.

Queensland Given Difficult Task

Melbourne, Dec. 21. Queensland (229 and 13 for two) were set the difficult task of getting 363 runs with eight wickets standing when stumps were drawn today on the third day of their Sheffield Shield match against Victoria (377 and 227 for six declared). The match ends tomorrow.

Queensland, who had scored 227 for eight on Saturday, lost their remaining first innings wickets for the addition of only two runs.—Reuter.

Britain's amateur football champions—Pegasus—will arrive here on January 7 for a series of three games.—France-Press.

Pegasus To Play In Philippines

Manila, Dec. 21. Britain's amateur football champions—Pegasus—will arrive here on January 7 for a series of three games.—France-Press.

THIS DIDN'T LAST LONG



Jimmy King (left) of Buffalo, USA, leads with a left to the face of Yolande Pompee, of Trinidad in the first round of their fight at Harringay, London. The fight did not last long, however, King being knocked out soon after the start of the second round by the Trinidad fighter, who so far has an unbeaten record. Jimmy King has been boxing on the continent for the last 18 months and he is a familiar figure in most of the European rings. — Express Photo.

Spotlighting The Three-Year Olds Of 1954

HARRY WRAGG HAS FAITH IN DARIUS

By JAMES PARK

On May 13 I went to the top of the stand at Newmarket to watch the Spring Stakes from my usual position almost in line with the winning post. As is his custom when he has a runner, Harry Wragg was there. "A nice colt you are running here," I remarked, "when he is ready." I got a bit of a shock when Harry replied: "He's not so backward as you think. He has done some nice work."

I had looked them over in the paddock and came to the conclusion that Wragg's charge, Darius, was not tuned up. The race soon supplied the answer, and the strong finish enabled Darius—pronounced Dar-eye-us—to get within a length of Cross Petition, with Landau a head behind.

No colt in a backward condition could have stormed up the hill as did Darius, so I soon realised he was naturally one of the burly type.

He retained that appearance until the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster when he had muscled up to a remarkable extent. That day he looked the picture of the well-trained thoroughbred. That could also be said of him on the afternoon of the Middle Park Stakes. His display in that race made him the problem colt among the top-class two-year-olds.

NEVER SO SURE

Such being the case, it may be as well if I examine that race even if it means putting

the cart before the horse by talking the last race first. I think it is correct to say that Harry Wragg was never so sure of winning with Darius as in the Middle Park Stakes.

I disagree with some of the race descriptions I have read. From his earliest days Darius had been taught to settle down behind and be brought out for a short run at the finish.

In the Middle Park he was steered out of the gate but was not taken in behind the others. Drawn No. 1, he stayed in that position so that he was allowed to see the full straight six furlongs.

There is not much point in dropping out a colt unless he is covered up. If that is not done he might as well go along with the leaders. With two furlongs to go Darius was asked to join issue. There was no quickening in his stride and the jockey soon got to work.

SLOVENLY

The colt improved a little but not sufficient to cause me to think that he would win. I could only describe it as a slovenly performance without any sparkle. Whether that was brought about by the unusual tactics can be left to the future to decide. The colt did not run again.

I have already shown, in dealing with Royal Challenger, that the Middle Park was a false run race. Such being the case, I am almost inclined to ignore it. Darius has been accused of showing the white feather. I thought he was not greatly interested because of the unusual tactics which were adopted. That is a different matter.

I was not thoroughly pleased when the colt got out of a true line and switched his tail near the finish when beating Princeoly Gift by a short head at Newmarket on the July course. But no fault could be found with the way he did his work at Goodwood and Doncaster.

NOT ON MERIT

Nor did he get a four-length beating on merit from The Plo King at Ascot as Darius was left to race by himself on the far side and that, in itself, was a big handicap.

Darius ran seven times. He won four races and was second in the others. His consistency must be recognised and I would prefer to give the colt a chance to redeem himself rather than join in the chorus of condemnation.

It is urged that some of the earlier produce of the dam have not trained on. That is perfectly correct but it sometimes pays to deal with the individual rather than the family.

Sir Percy Lorraine and trainer Harry Drage have complete faith in Darius. If it proves to be well founded, I shall be one of the first to congratulate them on the third round on January 9.

—(London Express Service)

FANLING GOLF

The Qualifying Round for the Junior Championship was played over 36 holes on both courses at Fanling on Sunday, the winner being W. L. T. Crunden who returned a gross score of 81+82=163. I. H. G. Thomson (105+24=129), R. R. Coombs (105+24=129), F. de Jonge (80+82=162), C. Pratt (85+82=167), A. G. Donn (89+79=168), R. J. Barker (87+82=169), W. G. Robertson (88+86=174), J. R. Leitch (83+90=173), J. L. MacIntyre (81+83=174), J. O. Pote-Hunt (88+88=176), B. Nove (88+88=176), W. H. Paterson (85+91=176), F. F. Paterson (90+86=176), R. Hastie (90+88=178), S. Allen (92+85=177), J. Wal (88+92=180), T. G. C. Knight (87+92=179), A. Macdonald (88+91=179).

BEST SCORES

The following were the best 25 individual scores in the Qualifying Round; the return on the Old Course being the first mentioned in each case: W. L. T. Crunden 81+82=163; I. H. G. Thomson 80+82=162; R. J. Barker 87+82=169; W. G. Robertson 88+86=174; J. R. Leitch 83+90=173; J. L. MacIntyre 81+83=174; J. O. Pote-Hunt 88+88=176; B. Nove 88+88=176; W. H. Paterson 85+91=176; F. F. Paterson 90+86=176; R. Hastie 90+88=178; S. Allen 92+85=177; J. Wal 88+92=180; T. G. C. Knight 87+92=179; A. Macdonald 88+91=179.

The first 151 players qualified automatically for the match-play stage of this competition.

There was a tie for 16th place between W. H. Paterson, R. B. Nove and J. F. Shomaker, all of whom had a gross 176. W. H. Paterson eventually qualified by virtue of his gross 85 on the Old Course. The first and second rounds will be played on January 8, the semi-final on January 10, the final being scheduled for the following Sunday.

The draw for the first round is as follows: W. H. Paterson v Dr J. B. Mackie; F. de Jonge v R. R. Coombs; J. L. MacIntyre v J. O. Pote-Hunt; C. Pratt v W. G. Robertson; R. J. Barker v W. L. T. Crunden; A. G. Donn v I. H. G. Thomson; D. Baker-Carr v A. R. de Pina; J. R. Leitch v J. Dickson Leach.

STANFORD WINNERS
J. Dickson Leach and R. G. L. Oliphant tied for first place in the "A" class of the weekend Stanford competition played on the Old Course with scores of 85 points, the winner in "B" class (handicaps 13 & over) being J. H. M. Andrew with 86 points.

The winner on the New Course (B. class) was John F. Shomaker with a return of 87 points. R. Hastie and S. Allen being joint runners-up with 85.

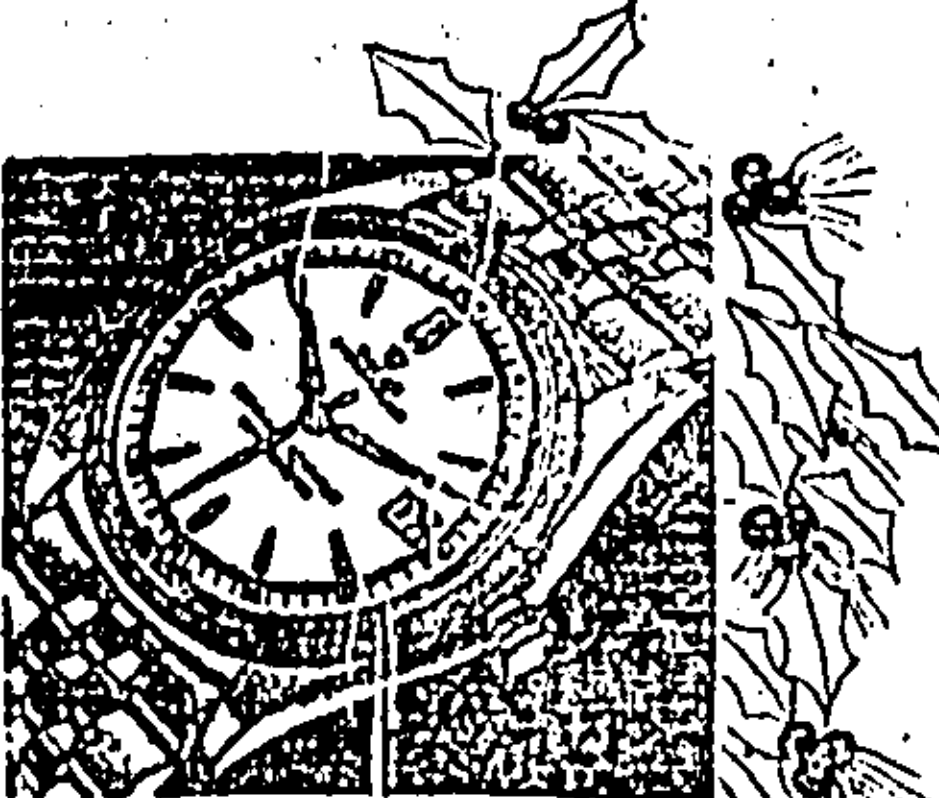
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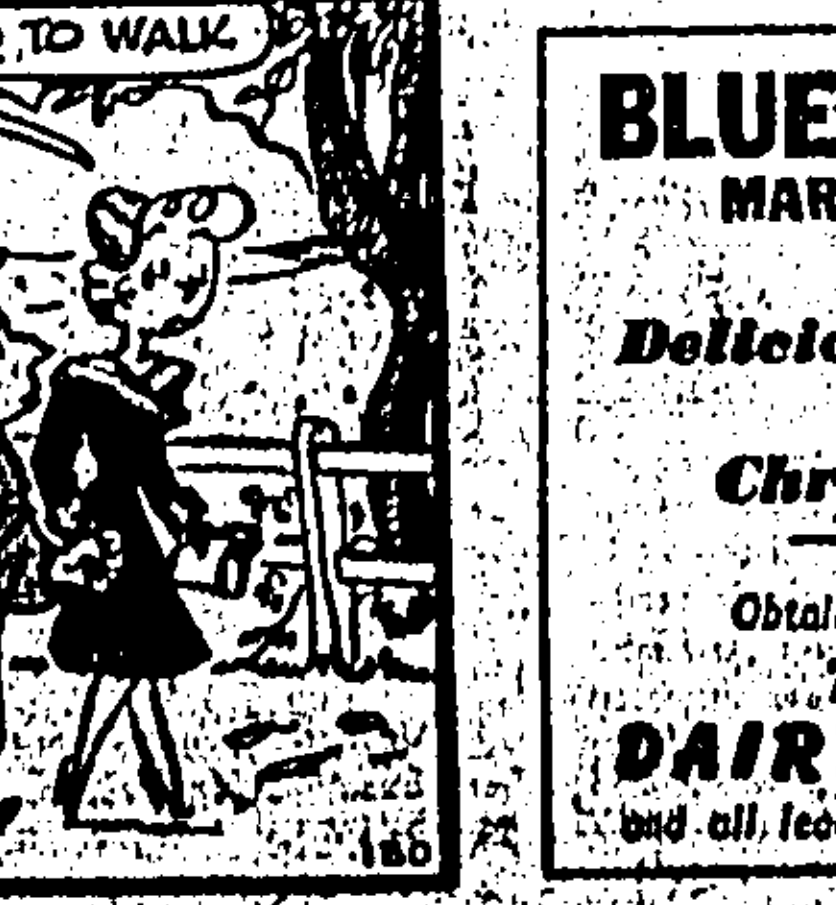
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OFF TO THE INDIES



The party of 15 MCC cricketers leave London Airport for the West Indies. Len Hutton (bottom-left) is the first professional to take an MCC team abroad on a Test tour.—Express Photo.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

Johnny Williams Feels Much Better About His Chances

Johnny Williams is the latest British heavyweight champion about to blaze the come-back trail. Johnny was at the Harringway ring-side to watch Jack Gardner, the man from whom he took the title, open his return campaign against the Italian Uber Bacilieri.

He commented afterwards: "Having seen that I feel much better about my chances. I could do much better, and if anyone wants me to prove it I'm more than willing."

Next March Williams' brother Robin returns from a two-year stay in New Zealand. He will look after Johnny's farm, and Johnny will become a full-time fighter. He has set himself a time limit of two years to make the grade or retire for good.

H. K. McKenzie, the crack Australian cyclist, believes in thorough preparation. Last week he arrived in England to begin training for the 1954 Tour of Britain race, which takes place in June. McKenzie said on arrival that he is trying to get an Australian team to enter for the Tour.

HELPING THE LADIES

Alec Becker, Surrey and England pace bowler, although not touring the West Indies this winter with the MCC, will keep his hand in at cricket by coaching ladies.

Alec and twin brother Eric are joint presidents of the Redoubtable Ladies' Cricket Club, one of the few ladies' clubs with winter training

quarters. Alec will look after the bowling, and Eric the batting.

Irish professional golfers will have an extra £500 tournament next year. An offer by a Dublin firm has been accepted and the tournament, 72 holes stroke play, will be held in Dublin as part of the National Fair celebrations.

First prize will be £150, £50 more than the winner of the Irish Championship receives, and the second player will get £100. Another Dublin firm are considering opening an indoor school at which leading professionals would "guest" for a month.

Don Cockell, British and Empire Heavyweight Champion, is likely to defend his Empire title next summer against Canadian Earl Walls.

Harry Leyland, Walls' European manager, wanted the fight to take place early in the new year. He said that Walls is willing to back his claim with a £5,000 stake.

Commenting on the challenge, John Simpson, Cockell's manager, said "Don is tied up with fights between now and next June. However, we're prepared to meet Walls in Canada in the late summer. If financial arrangements are satisfactory."

(London Express Service)

FEW FIRST DIVISION CLUBS CAN EXPECT EASY PASSAGE INTO 4TH ROUND OF FA CUP

London, Dec. 21.

Few First Division clubs can expect an easy passage in the Third Round of the FA Cup, to be played on January 9.

The draw has brought together twelve of the giants while seven more have ties with prominent Second Division clubs. Newcastle, Cardiff and Manchester City are the exceptions.

The Tynesiders receive Wigan Athletic, Lancashire Combination survivors. Cardiff are at home to Peterborough of the Midland League while Manchester City take the short cross-country trip to Bradford, promotion candidates in Division Three (North).

One effect of the draw is that more "unfashionable" clubs than usual will qualify for the fourth round. Some of the smaller clubs would have preferred meeting top-weight clubs now and respite the financial harvest, but those that survive should derive even greater benefit as the competition narrows and interest grows.

The outstanding match of the round is likely to be at Sheffield, where United and Wednesday have been drawn together for

the first time in 25 years. United won the previous encounter, a fifth-round replay, four-one. A capacity crowd of 65,000 is anticipated.

ANOTHER "DERBY"

Wolves, quoted as nine-one favourites for the cup, receive Birmingham in another "Derby". All the Midlands will want to see this match.

Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion, other Midlands candidates, are paired with London clubs. Villa play Arsenal at Highbury. Last time these famous clubs met in the semi-finals was in 1931. They drew at Highbury but Arsenal won the replay three-one. They staged a rehearsal in a League game the previous Saturday. Aston Villa's present manager, Eric Houghton, appeared for Villa in the second encounter.

West Bromwich Albion meet Chelsea at the Hawthorns. On League form Albion seem likely winners, but Chelsea have a reputation as Cup-fighters. Last year, when the club struggled through a four-match Marathon, Chelsea finally triumphed 4-0.

Charlton have a difficult task at Fritton Park, Portsmouth showing improvement recently, but Bolton, last year's finalists, may carry too much forward punch for Liverpool, fellow Lancastrians, who are much concerned with the fight to stay in Division One.

Burnley, who receive Manchester United in another all-Lancashire tie, won two-one when the teams met in the League in October.

Tottenham Hotspur's ill-luck does not change. Last season they were drawn away four times and now they must visit Leeds, where the chief menace will be the Welsh international centre-forward John Charles. Preston North End and Huddersfield also travel, the former to Derby County, and the latter to West Ham—teakish encounters for both First Division clubs.

Blackpool, Cup holders, receive Luton, who are among the Second Division promotion candidates, while Middlesbrough and Sunderland face lively challenges in Leicester and Doncaster respectively.

Supporters of the Bristol clubs may find their loyalties strained. Rovers play Blackburn at Eastville while Third Division City encounter Rotherham United at Ashton Gate.

IN FOR ADVENTURES

Third Division clubs, with eyes on promotion, may also find themselves in for Cup adventures. Port Vale, leaders of the Northern Section, are likely to make further progress against Queen's Park Rangers. They have a six-point advantage over their nearest League rivals, but Ipswich, leaders of the Southern Division, are harder pressed and may find a long run embarrassing. The East Anglian club are at home to Oldham,

DAVIS CUP FINAL

Professionals To Help Tune Up The Teams

Melbourne, Dec. 21.

Ted Schroeder, the former American Davis Cup player, and Dinny Pails, the Australian professional, are to help sharpen up the United States Davis Cup team for the challenge round against Australia at the end of the month.

They will join the cup squad here for practice later this week. Billy Talbot, the American captain, announced to-day.

The Australian team will have professionals Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor to assist them at their work-outs. Sedgman and McGregor won back the Davis Cup for Australia from the United States in 1950.

Australia and the United States will be meeting in the final for the 18th time in their match here on December 28, 29 and 30.

Despite the hot humid weather, the Americans were practising today. "We are putting everything in to it," said Talbot.

Commenting on the form of his two top players, Talbot said: "Tony Trabert still has some distance to go, but he is moving along promisingly. Don't be surprised if he is a world beater by the first match of the challenge round."

"Seixas is regaining his confidence and has changed his attitude to practice. I am sure that will make all the difference." Mr. Harry Hopman, captain manager of the Australian team, said today that Australia should win the challenge round by three matches to two, and it might be 4-1.

"Trabert is the main danger to Australia's hopes," declared Mr. Hopman. "He could win both his matches, but Seixas faces a terrible task to find his top form in time. The doubts could be tough and close, but Australia has two pairs—Rosewall and Hood, and Rose and Harcourt—either of which should be capable of winning."—Reuter.

Malaya Offers Six Shuttlers

The Hongkong Badminton Association has received a letter from the Badminton Association of Malaya requesting a reply as to the possibility of the Colony entertaining a team of the six best available players of Malaya, including Malaya's Thomas Cup players of 1952 and possibly potential players of the 1955 team, during March and April next year.

The BAM is at present making arrangements to send the official team on a tour of the Far Eastern countries and have included the Colony and Malaya in its proposed itinerary.

The BAM requests provision of air passages, hotel board and accommodation, expenses (pocket) and percentage of gates for the party which will consist of six players and two officials.

ACCEPTORS FOR SUMMER CUP

Sydney, Dec. 21.

There are 21 final acceptors for the Australian Jockey Club's Summer Cup to be run at Randwick on December 28, over a mile and a half.

They are, with weights: Lord Forest (8 st. 10 lbs), Regal Gilt (8.4), Unfaan (8.4), Grand Monarch (8), Great Word (8), Double Blank (7.10), Forest Land (7.10), Dura Bay (7.9), Elmet (7.5), Two Birds (7.5), Allocate (7.5), Maynard (7.5), Cymindium (7.4), Tea Towel (7.4), Dark Fife (7.4), Britavah (7.2), Lord Lucifer (7.2), Roman Hero (7), Lord Stefan (7), Bexley (7), Cedrela (7)—Reuter.

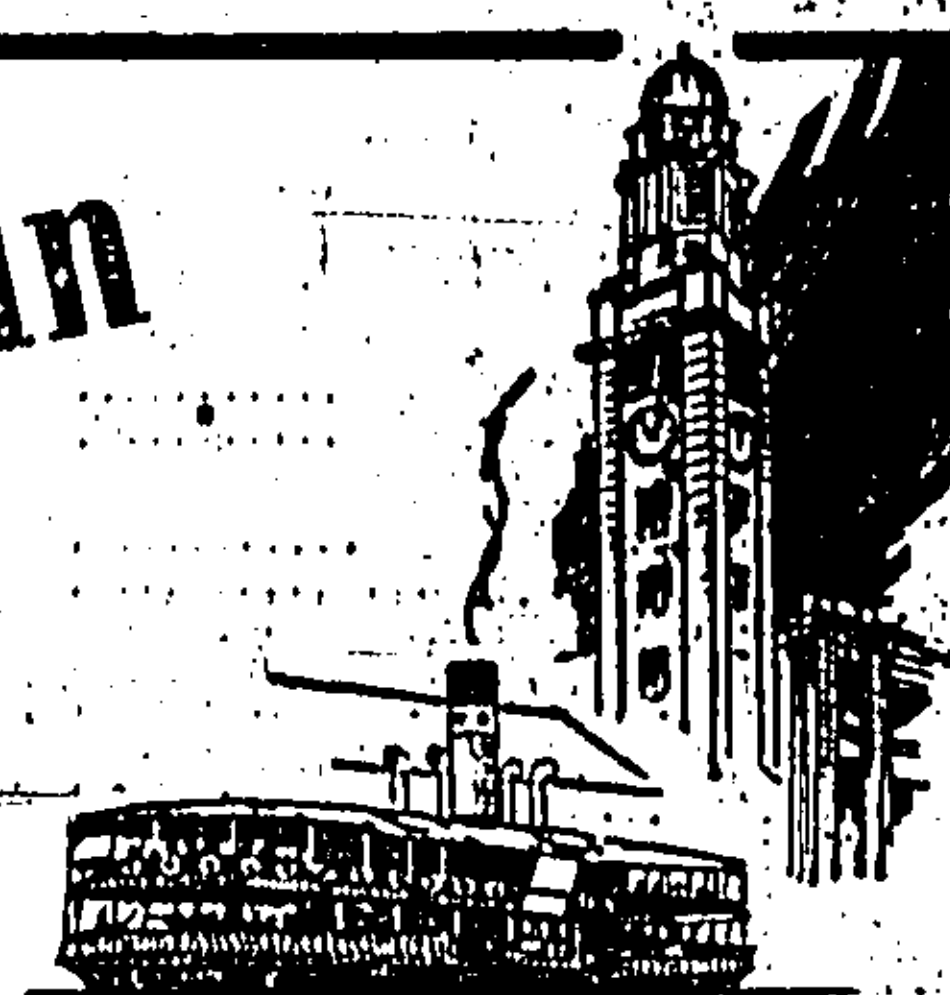
REINFORCEMENT AWAITED

Taipei, Dec. 21.

The Chinese Republic soccer team from Hongkong is expecting the arrival of Lee Yuk-tak, son of Lee Wai-long, to resume the challenge against local soccer teams after two setbacks.

The visitors first lost to a National Navy team by 2-1 last Saturday, and were again defeated by a CAT-Chungyin combined team yesterday afternoon by 3-1.—Reuter.

What's best in Kowloon?



CONTACT LENSES

Most up-to-date style. Worn without fluid. Whole day wearing tolerance. No molding required.

For particulars, please contact KOWLOON OPTICAL CO. 20, Cameron Road, Tsimshatsui. Head Office: 563, Nathan Rd. Branch Office: 71, Tai Po Rd.

X'MAS SALE TOYS

Prices Drastically Reduced

BON-TON

38, Nathan Rd., Kowloon

HOLLYWOOD BEAUTY PARLOUR

Ladies: Cold Wave \$25.00
Machineless Wave \$10.00
Shampoo & Set \$ 3.50
Gents: Hair Cut \$ 1.50
Please phone 50249 for appointment.
10, Carnarvon Rd., Kowloon.

FREE CALENDAR

to Christmas card buyers (Limited 500 pcs.)

SUNNY COMPANY

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Peaceful Surrounding Satisfactory Service Moderate Charges
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65-67, Kimberley Rd., Kowloon. Tel: 59185.

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TO AN

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AUSTIN COATES

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B.C.M. Post

Hongkong and Kowloon

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at the Most Attractive Restaurant in Kowloon.

European & Chinese Food Prepared by a Master Chef & Tastefully Served.

Wine, Dine and Dance until 2 a.m. in delightful surroundings where an excellent floor, good music and a restful lighting effect will add to your enjoyment.

Ten Minutes From Star Ferry By No. 6 Bus or Five Minutes by Taxi

Look for the Neon Sign

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at 74, Tai Po Road, Kowloon.

Telephone 54697.

WINTER SALE SILKS of every description

A Delightful Selection of New Design Autumn and Winter Materials

10-20% DISCOUNT

Fancy Brocade, Tribute Satin, Brocade Taffeta, Silk Gauze, Raw Silks, Ponjee Silks, Shantung Silks, Ancient Brocade, and Various Kinds of Pure Silks.

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Specializes in

Evening Jackets, Morning Gowns, House Coats, Dresses, and Lamb Fur Jackets. READY-MADE or MADE TO MEASURE Smart cutting in Chinese & European Styles

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Latest styles—coats, stoles, neck-pieces, jackets, coats, fox, mink (silver, blue, ranch, wild & pure white), Sable, Kolinsky, Persian lamb, squirrel, stone-marten, etc. are plenty in stock.

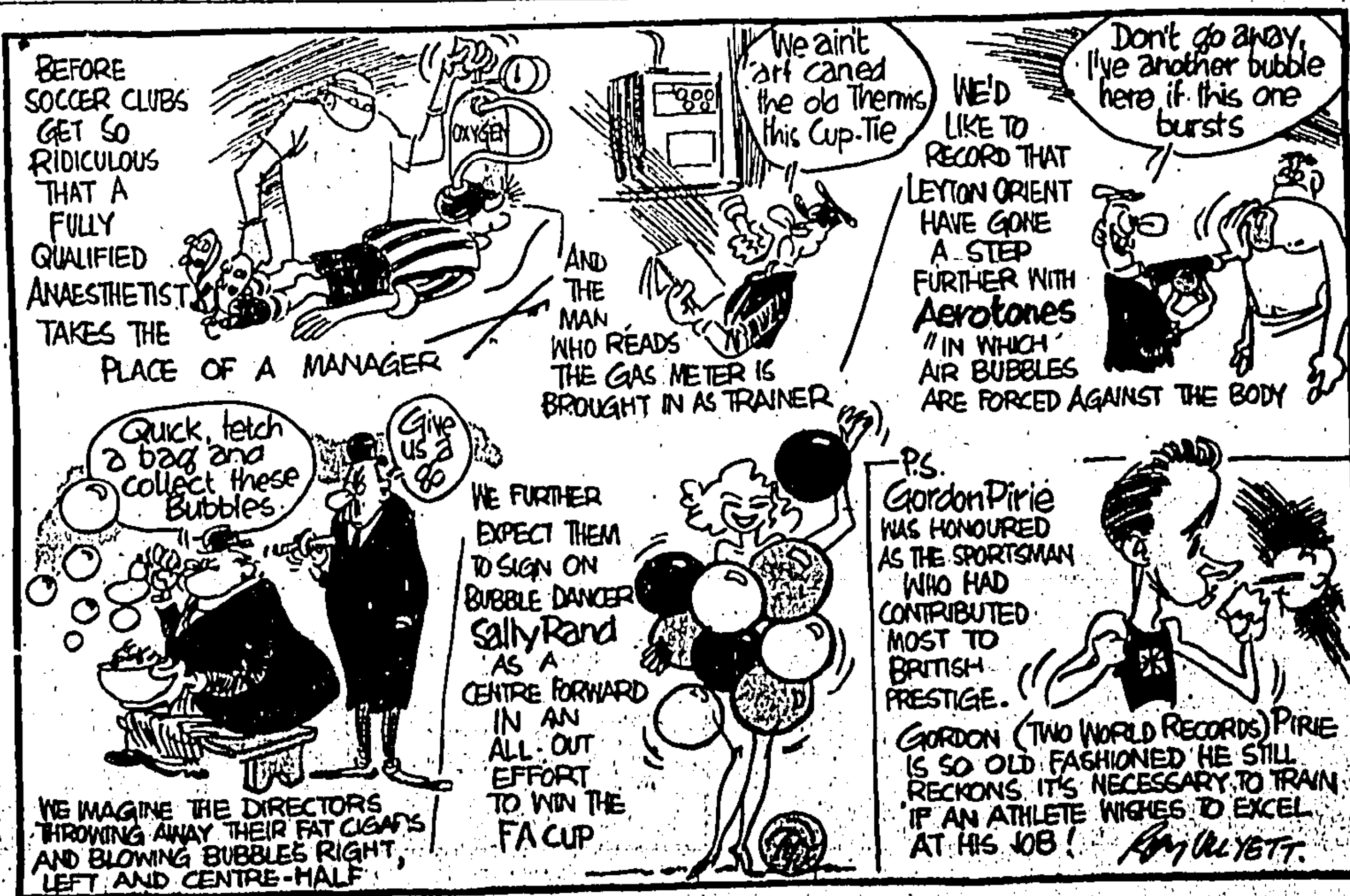
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Working hours 9.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Dec. 20 to 31, 1953. Closed on Dec. 28 1953 and January 1, 1954.
LADIES Shampoo & Set ... \$ 3.50 Permanent Wave ... \$ 6.00
Machineless Wave ... \$10.00 Cold Wave ... \$25.00
GENTS Hair Cut ... \$ 1.50
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BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"YOOHOU"	Bangkok	10 a.m. 23rd Dec.
"TAHMOI"	Shanghai	3 p.m. 24th Dec.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"SZECHUEN"	Keelung	a.m. 25th Dec.
"FOYANG"	Moji	25th Dec.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"CHANGSHA"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Moji, Kure, Yokohama & Kobe	Noon 23rd Dec.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"SINKIANG"	Melbourne & Manila	30th Dec.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

Sails		
"CYCLOPS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Dec.
"AUTOLYCUS"	Genoa, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London, Antwerp & Hamburg	20th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Jan.
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Jan.
"CLYTONEUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Jan.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Sails		
"ANCHISES"	Liverpool	28th Dec.
"CLYTONEUS"	do	28th Dec.
"ASTYANAX"	do	10th Jan. 1954
"PYRRHUS"	do	13th Dec.
"EUMAKUS"	10th Dec.	25th Jan. 1954
"ASCANIUS"	2nd Dec.	28th Jan. 1954
"AGAPENOR"	2nd Jan.	7th Feb. 1954
"PELEUS"	7th Jan.	13th Feb. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

Sails N.Y.		
"AGAMEMNON"	Sailed	30th Dec.
"DONA AURORA"	do	19th Jan.
"DONA ALICIA"	do	2nd Jan.
"BATAAN"	24th Dec.	13th Jan.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	14th Jan.	6th Mar.

SAILING for NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL.

Sails		
"BENARES"	22nd Dec.	22nd Dec.
"AJAX"	4th Jan.	5th Jan.
"HAINAN"	19th Jan.	20th Jan.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Tathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Depart Hongkong	Arrives H.K.
HK/Bangkok/Singapore (DC-4)	7.00 a.m. Tue. Fri.	7.15 a.m. Wed. Sat.
(Connects at Bangkok with U.A. on Tuesdays for Rangoon)		
HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo (DC-3)	6.50 a.m. Tue. Fri.	3.40 p.m. Wed. Sat.
HK/Singapore (DC-4)	11.00 a.m. Wed.	6.00 p.m. Thu.
HK/Hanoi/Haiphong (DC-3)	10.00 a.m. Wed.	2.45 p.m. Thu.
HK/Bangkok/Hongkong/Calcutta (DC-4)	11.00 a.m. Sat.	4.30 p.m. Sun.

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

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Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.

1 Connaught Rd. Tel: 30331/8

Branch Office: 50 Connaught Rd. West. Tel: 25875, 32144, 24878

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HONGKONG PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOONS)

Price, 20 cents per copy.
Saturdays 30 cents.
Subscription: \$6.00 per month.
Postage: China and Macao \$3.00 per month, U.K. British Possessions and other countries \$7.00 per month.
News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.
Telephone: 26111 (5 Lines).
KOWLOON OFFICE: Salisbury Road, Telephone: 52413.

Classified Advertisements 20 WORDS \$4.00 for 1 DAY PREPAID

ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS \$1.50 PER DAY

10 cents PER WORD OVER 20

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal \$5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

ALTERNATE INSERTIONS 10% EXTRA

If not prepaid a booking fee of 50 cents is charged.

PERSONAL

Sir Man Kien and Lady Lu take this opportunity to wish all their relatives and friends a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year, and to reciprocate all kind wishes received. They hope they may be excused for not sending out individual greetings.

HOME LEAVE

ENGLAND. Comfortable home leave at "The Hiale" Newham. "Glas" Modernized self-contained furnished flat, country mansion, delightful surroundings, 220 acres, woodlands, children's paradise. Constant hot water, electricity, centrally heated. Nursery with trained nurse. Domestic help. Television. From 415 guineas weekly. A few vacancies for 1954. Inquiries: reservations. Rave.

MUSICAL

RCA Victor LP records consisting of symphonies, operas, chamber music, instrumental and vocal. Available D. Essex, 4A De Vaux Road, Room 1, 2nd floor. Tel. 30160.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER
NIPPON Yusen Kaisha
S.S. "EIKOKU MARU"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignee's risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 21st December, 1953.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 21st December, 1953, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents

Hongkong, 19th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER
NIPPON Yusen Kaisha
S.S. "AKAGI MARU"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignee's risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 21st December, 1953.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 21st December, 1953, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents

Hongkong, 19th December, 1953.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m/v "CHANGSHA"
Arrived 19th December, 1953.

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Godown at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday 23rd December and Thursday, 24th December, 1953, and consignee representatives are requested to be present during survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
Agents,
Australia-Oriental Line Ltd.
China Navigation Co., Ltd.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER
AUSTRALIA-WEST PACIFIC LINE
S.S. "GIRON"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignee's risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke at 10 a.m. on the 23rd December, 1953.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 24th December 1953, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 31st December 1953, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents

Hongkong, 19th December, 1953.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD

Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesday.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1953.

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HONGKONG to CASABLANCA in 30 DAYS

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Loading in Hongkong 9th January 1954

for Marseilles, Algiers, Oran, Tangier, Casablanca, Le Havre, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Dunkirk

(Also Taking Passengers)

INDONESIA BANS SALE OF RUBBER TO CHINA

New York Dec. 21.

The Indonesian Government has refused a number of rubber companies permission to export rubber to Communist China, the Indonesian Information Office said today.

It is understood applications for licences to export rubber were made immediately after the conclusion of preliminary agreement on a trade treaty between the two countries.

According to a Government spokesman in the Information Office, the applications were rejected "pending further discussion on the details of the basic agreement."

The Indonesian-Chinese trade treaty is subject to further study by both countries, the spokesman pointed out, and cannot go into operation until ratified by the Indonesian Government.

"There is no likelihood at this time of any immediate export of other rubber or tin to China," the spokesman said.

The statement received here from the Foreign Ministry in Jakarta did not disclose any probable date for ratification of the treaty.—United Press.

P&O B.I.E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CORFU"	10th December	12th January
"CHUSAN"	10th December	12th January
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February
"CARTHAGE"	4th February	8th March
Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.		
Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CORFU"	15th January	18th February
"CHUSAN"	1st February	1st March
"CANTON"	15th February	18th March
"CARTHAGE"	12th March	12th April

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Arrives	For
"TRESILLIAN"	10th January	Straits, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Oran, Marseilles, Genoa, Liverpool, North Continent.
"SUNDIA"	3rd January	Straits, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Oran, Marseilles, London, North Continent.

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if convenient after.

Tanks available for cargo of Oil in Bulk.

Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SIRDHANA"	due 3rd Jan.	from Japan
	sails 5th Jan.	for Singapore, Penang, Bangkok & Calcutta
"WARORA"	due 6th Jan.	from Japan
	sails 7th Jan.	for Singapore, Bangkok & Chittagong
"ANSHUN"	due 10th Jan.	from Calcutta, Bangkok & Straits
	sails 11th Jan.	for Japan

For Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr & Bahrain. Also other P. Gulf Ports via Bombay.

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OKHILA"	due 23rd Dec.	from P. Gulf, Karachi, Bombay, Colombo & Singapore
"ORNA"	due 20th Dec.	from Japan

For Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr & Bahrain. Also other P. Gulf Ports via Bombay.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NELLORE"	due 22nd Dec.	from Australia
"NELLORE"	due 17th Jan.	from Japan

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to

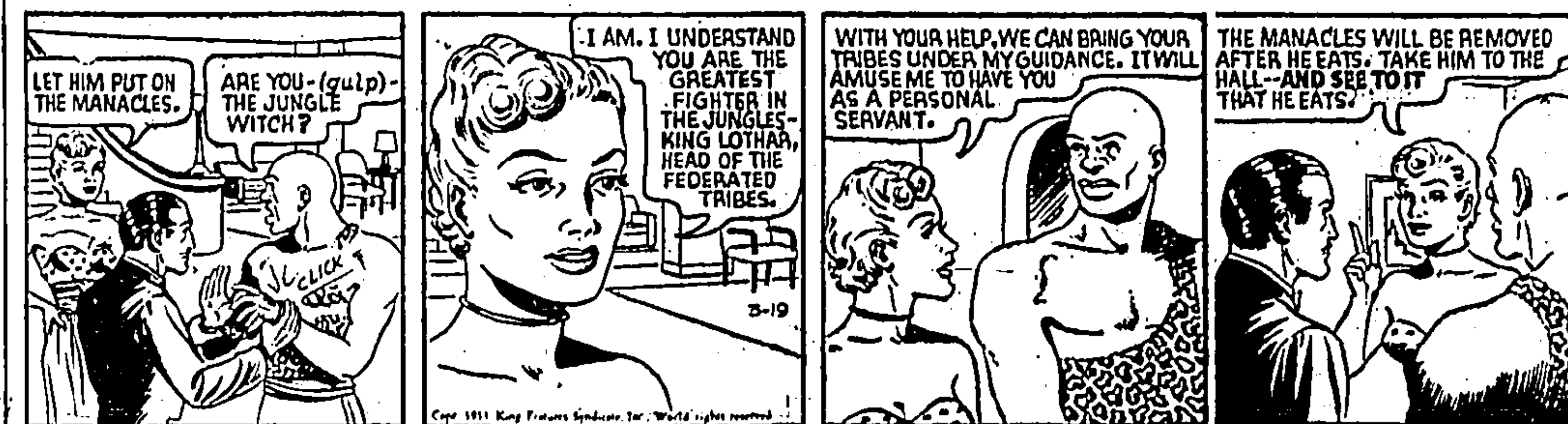
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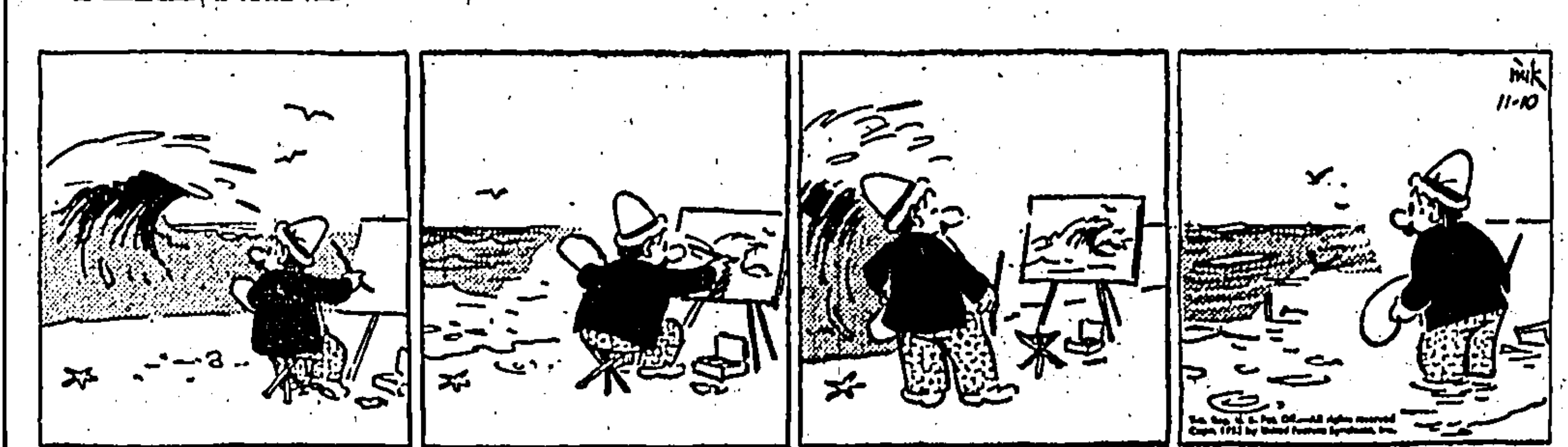
By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERNAND

A Washout

By Mik



NANCY

The Better To Hear Me With, Santa

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



...this situation calls for a

San Miguel

News in the air 50 MILLION TO GO BY PLANE THIS YEAR

The world's regular air service (Russia and China excluded) now have a combined fleet of about 3,000 airliners.

It is expected that this year they will carry 50 millions passengers. About 800,000 people are now employed in the airline business.

Air Commodore William Joseph Crisham, 47-year-old Irish-born RAF fighter expert, is to take over command of No. 12 Group, Fighter Command, next month. He has been in the RAF for 25 years. Recently he has been commander of the Central Fighter Establishment.

Ace parachutist Major T. W. ("Dumbo") Williams has joined the Woking, Surrey, parachute company, headed by Sir Raymond Quilley, to test new developments.

A new overseas service by a British independent airline is to be started next month when Skyways fly regularly to Malta and Cyprus. It will be known as "Colonial Coach" service.

Trans-World Airlines, one of the American companies flying on the North Atlantic route, have just ordered 20 Super Constellations. The new German airline, waiting for the signal to begin operations, have now signed the final contract for a fleet of "Super Constables". London Express Service.

Kanpur India, Dec. 21. A passenger express train from Lucknow to Banda ran down and killed 14 camels squatting on the track near here.

Two wheels of the engine were thrown off the rails but the train was stopped before any further damage was done. No one was injured.—China Mail Special.

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives Dec. 24 from Singapore.
Sails Dec. 24 for Yokohama & Kobe.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives Dec. 28 from Manila.
Sails Dec. 20 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Calcutta & Chittagong.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

"STAR ALCYONE"

Arrives Dec. 23 from Singapore.
Sails Dec. 24 for Pusan, Kobe & Yokohama.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives Dec. 24 from Japan.
Sails Dec. 25 for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah & Bahrain.

"THAI"

Arrives Dec. 26 from Japan.
Sails Dec. 26 for Manila.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION, S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama With Limited Liability)

Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.

Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

AIR CHARTER FIRMS GET A BOOST

Seamen with wings are bringing a boom to air charter firms. More and more aircraft are booked to bring home the crews of the ships they have delivered to foreign ports.

Sometimes the vessels are new ships going to their new owners. Others are second-hand vessels sold in the open market. Many are bound for steel furnaces.

Within the last few days inquiries have been made in the air charter market for several aircraft for what seamen are now calling the "graveyard airlift."

12 SHIPS SOLD

The seamen's aid needed to fly back from Japan crews of vessels sold to Japanese shipbreakers. In the past few weeks a fleet of nearly 12 obsolete ships has been sold to Japan for scrap purposes. Several of them are unwanted British vessels.

The majority of these flights are now fixed in London at the Baltic Exchange, the world centre for arranging cargoes for merchant ships. The Exchange has been developing a similar organisation for this world's airlift.

All the big British shipping lines are rapidly increasing their use of aircraft for their crews. Airplanes are being chartered daily to switch crews in Europe and the East from ships disabled and delayed by repairs in distant ports and to relieve seamen due home for leave.

(London Express Service)

Gifts For Parish Church

London, Dec. 15.

Leslie Durbin, who fashioned the Sword of Stalingrad, has now made a chalice and paten for the parish church of the late Sir Frank Stockdale, Deputy Chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation who died in 1947.

They are the gift of his two sons. And they were dedicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury during a Communion service in the May Summer House Chapel. The church faces the Colonial Office Headquarters and is attended by many Civil Servants. More than sixty were present at the dedication ceremony.

Sir Frank Stockdale had close association with the colonies. His first colonial appointment was as Mycologist and Lecturer in Agricultural science at the Imperial Department of Agriculture in the West Indies.

Later he went to British Guiana as Assistant Director of Agriculture and then to Mauritius as Director of Agriculture. He will be best remembered as Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies from 1940-1945, when he was appointed Adviser to the Colonial Office on the Ten Year Development Plans of the Colonies.

EVEN THE RUST CAN BE MADE TO LOOK REAL

Two brothers in the Surrey village of Claygate are daily using force, hammer and anvil to make ornamental ironwork. For 50 years they have been specialists at it.

The father of Mr. J. T. Hogden and Mr. H. J. Hogden opened a shoeing forge in Common Road, Claygate, in 1896. The brothers have made ornamental work their business.

Said Mr. H. J. Hogden: "We can make a replica of an Elizabethan dog grate with the stands for the wine cups—and the rust, if you like."

"It is not difficult, for we still use the same methods as were used in the 16th century. We still depend on the fire, hammer, and anvil, but our drills are now precision-made."

Mr. J. T. Hogden has a 26-year-old son who will carry on the business when the brothers retire.—London Express Service.

No Registration For New Party

Berlin, Dec. 21.

The West Berlin city government refused to register the "Europe Party of Germany" as a political party in Berlin.

It said its programme did not correspond to that of a political party. None of the party's leaders is known publicly.—Reuter.

British Diplomat In Teheran



Mr. Denis Wright, recently appointed British Charge d'Affaires in Teheran, arrived in the Persian capital yesterday. He will re-open the British Embassy which was closed down 14 months ago. Mr. Wright, who is 42, has specialised in economics during his 14 years in the consular and diplomatic service.—Express Photo.

British Christmas Fare Most Varied In 15 Years

London, Dec. 21.

The people of Britain are looking forward to their tastiest, most varied Christmas fare for 15 years.

With food rationing almost ended, housewives feel as if shackles had been struck from them. This year, for the first time since the war, they can use as much sugar as they wish.

White flour, only a year ago a mere memory of the days before the war, is back on the pantry shelves again.

Dried fruit, raisins, and the rich Christmas pudding beloved by the British are plentiful.

Technically, meat and bacon are still rationed until next year. But supplies are so good that shopkeepers can give their customers extra. In any case, the turkey is the traditional English Christmas dish and "the signs are that there will be plenty of poultry for everyone."

More than 6,000 tons of turkey will be imported this year, and producers in England and Ireland will contribute thousands of tons more.

The one difficult item is butter which is still scarce and strictly rationed to three ounces per person per week. But other fats, including margarine, are available to make up the difference, and grocers are fairly generous with them.

AT THE PORTS

At the ports, ships from many parts of the world are discharging cargoes of sultanas, currants and raisins from Greece, South Africa, Cyprus, California and Turkey.

Eating apples from Italy are being swung ashore. Bananas, until recently so scarce, are now almost a deluge in Britain, are now easy to obtain.

Big hotels are planning Christmas banquets on a scale not seen here since 1939, the last Christmas before World War II. Their chefs, frustrated for years by scarcities, are inventing new luxury sweets and dishes now that they can get all the ingredients they want.

Apart from the food and unrationed chocolates and sweetmeats, British children will find that Christmas 1953 is getting somewhere near the kind of Christmas they have only heard about until now.

RANGE OF TOYS

There is a much wider range of toys in the shops this year. Cowboy suits are made of better material and are much more glamorous than last year. There are huge rubber men which can be blown up and used as rebounding punchballs, miniature washing machines, and miniature devices for building replicas of real houses.

One popular toy is a steering wheel with gear lever which teaches a child the rudiments of car driving.

For adults, gifts are made of better materials. There are more electrical gadgets. In spite of complaints about the increased cost of living, Britons are finding that, on the

whole, this is a cheaper Christmas than in previous years. Most goods, including toys, are down in price because the Government in this year's budget made big reductions in the purchase tax which it has imposed since the war on sales.

Some food is dearer, but poultry is slightly cheaper than last year.

Theatres have planned lavish shows for Christmas. Some of the pantomimes, the unique English combination of fairy-tale and vaudeville, will be on ice with skating stars in the principal roles.—China Mail Special.

VISCOUNT WINNING AIR RACE

Britain looks like winning the battle to sell the plane of the year—the Vickers Viscount prop-jet airliner—all over the world against desperate American competition with outdated piston-engined planes.

This was indicated last week by the Viscount's designer, Mr. George Edwards, managing director of Vickers, at Hurn Airport, Hants, where production of the plane is to be concentrated.

He said: "There is no aircraft like the Viscount contemplated anywhere else in the world, yet the prototype Viscount first flew in 1948."

"The Americans are desperately trying to sell piston-engined planes as they have not yet designed a prop-jet aircraft. They are now saying turbo-propers are no good."

Quoting B.E.A.'s operating figures, Mr. Edwards added: "The Viscount has now completed six months of operation. So far 88 Viscounts worth £25,000,000 have been ordered and negotiations for a further 60 are under way.—London Express Service.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

WOOL AND RUBBER PROSPECTS 1954 May Be Crucial Period For Markets

London, Dec. 21.

Russian buying of wool and other consumer goods, against sales of gold and Russian's other means of raising money, is quite real so far as it goes, but it does not go very far, and it is a chancy foundation for any market.

Because of the downturn in U.S. defence spending on the one hand, and the concentrated tax payments by U.S. companies on the other hand, one has previously surmised that the first half of next year may be the testing time for many markets. This may apply particularly to wool, since the first half of the calendar year is the heavy supply season.

First sales of new-season crossbred wool find a good enough demand but it remains to be seen how the market will stand up to the main weight of the clip.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

New York, Dec. 21.

Stocks turned earlier late today under influence of the news which dropped on the day of production cut-back in the industry.

Steel turned lower on a combination of news—word that US Steel is shutting down a blast furnace at Dadeboro, Pa., because of a decline in orders; and the estimate that steel industry operations this week will be at a low 66.6 per cent of capacity—smallest since the strike week of July 28, 1952.

While the estimate, made by American Iron and Steel Institute, reflects in part the Christmas holiday, it is a larger drop than usual. US Steel fell 3/4 point to \$39 1/2. Bethlehem dropped 1/2 to \$51 1/2.

For the market as a whole, however, changes were small. Volume for the day totalled 1,600,000 shares, compared with 1,550,000 on Friday.

Motors held steady, with volume coming into Willys-Overland, the day's most active stock, off 1/4 point to \$16 1/2.

Of 1,198 advanced, 572 declined, 329 were low, 36 new lows. The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was at \$3,115,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 520,000 shares. Dow Jones closing averages were:

	Dec. 21
30 Industrials	232.90
20 Rails	87.50
15 Utilities	52.70
65 Stocks	107.10
40 Bonds	97.50
Blanket price index	104.11

The Rubber Markets

Singapore, Dec. 21.

The market fluctuated narrowly today. There were some demand for low-grades and some off-take for Australia otherwise the market was featureless. Prices:

No. 1 rubber per lb. Jan.	50 1/2-51 1/2
No. 2 rubber per lb. Jan.	49 1/2-50 1/2
No. 3 rubber per lb. Jan.	48 1/2-49 1/2
No. 4 rubber per lb. Jan.	47 1/2-48 1/2
Spot rubber unbleached	47 1/2-48 1/2
Blanket price index	104.11

LONDON MARKET

The rubber market was dull with No. 1 Has spot quoted at 17 pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 wool Has	10 1/2-11 1/2
Settlement house term:	
January	17 1/2-18 1/2
February	17 1/2-18 1/2
March	17 1/2-18 1/2
April/June	17 1/2-18 1/2
July/September	17 1/2-18 1/2
October/December	17 1/2-18 1/2
January	18 1/2-19 1/2
February	18 1/2-19 1/2
March	18 1/2-19 1/2
April/June	18 1/2-19 1/2
July/September	18 1/2-19 1/2
October/December	18 1/2-19 1/2
January	19 1/2-20 1/2
February	19 1/2-20 1/2
March	19 1/2-20 1/2
April/June	19 1/2-20 1/2
July/September	19 1/2-20 1/2
October/December	19 1/2-20 1/2
January	20 1/2-21 1/2
February	20 1/2-21 1/2
March	20 1/2-21 1/2
April/June	20 1/2-21 1/2
July/September	20 1/2-21 1/2
October/December	20 1/2-21 1/2
January	21 1/2-22 1/2
February	21 1/2-22 1/2
March	21 1/2-22 1/2
April/June	21 1/2-22 1/2
July/September	21 1/2-22 1/2
October/December	21 1/2-22 1/2
January	22 1/2-23 1/2
February	22 1/2-23 1/2
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July/September	22 1/2-23 1/2
October/December	22 1/2-23 1/2
January	23 1/2-24 1/2
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July/September	24 1/2-25 1/2
October/December	24 1/2-25 1/2
January	25 1/2-26 1/2
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March	25 1/2-26 1/2
April/June	25 1/2-26 1/2
July/September	25 1/2-26 1/2
October/December	25 1/2-26 1/2
January	26 1/2-27 1/2
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October/December	26 1/2-27 1/2
January	27 1/2-28 1/2
February	27 1/2-28 1/2
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July/September	28 1/2-29 1/2
October/December	28 1/2-29 1/2
January	29 1/2-30 1/2
February	29 1/2-30 1/2
March	29 1/2-30 1/2
April/June	29 1/2-30 1/2
July/September	29 1/2-30 1/2
October/December	29 1/2-30 1/2
January	30 1/2-31 1/2
February	30 1/2-31 1/2
March	30 1/2-31 1/2
April/June	30 1/2-31 1/2
July/September	30 1/2-31 1/2
October/December	30 1/2-31 1/2
January	31 1/2-32 1/2
February	31 1/2-32 1/2
March	31 1/2-32 1/2
April/June	31 1/2-32 1/2
July/September	31 1/2-32 1/2
October/December	31 1/2-32 1/2
January	32 1/2-33 1/2
February	32 1/2-33 1/2
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April/June	32 1/2-33 1/2
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October/December	32 1/2-33 1/2
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March	40 1/2-41 1/2
April/June	40 1/2-41 1/2
July/September	40 1/2-41 1/2
October/December	40 1/2-41 1/2
January	41 1/2-42 1/2
February	41 1/2-42 1/2
March	41 1/2-42 1/2
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October/December	46 1/2-47 1/2
January	47 1/2-48 1/2
February	47 1/2-48 1/2
March	47 1/2-48 1/2
April/June	47 1/2-48 1/2
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April/June	50 1/2-51 1/2
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January	51 1/2-52 1/2
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April/June	51 1/2-52 1/2
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July/September	52 1/2-53 1/2
October/December	52 1/2-53 1/2
January	53 1/2-54 1/2
February	53 1/2-54 1/2
March	53 1/2-54 1/2
April/June	53 1/2-54 1/2
July/September	53 1/2-54 1/2
October/December	53 1/2-54 1/2
January	

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Page 10 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1953.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Three Together

POVERTY, as well as love, bound Liza, in her late middle-age, both to her mother, who had passed the peak of 80, and to Tom, her son, now in his early twenties.

The three generations shared a home, each in a different way dependent upon the others.

The small, shabby house where they lived belonged to Liza's mother. But she, at her age, could never have run it alone. Liza did the lion's share of the work, and counted it a bargain that she received a roof over her head in return, for she was the poorest of the trio. The richest was Tom, and though a sense of duty towards the others had something to do with his staying, no doubt, he would not have found many places in London to provide full board and lodging for the £2 a week he paid at his grandmother's home.

LIZA IN CHARGE

It was a happy household, though, of course, with three of such diverse ages living so much on top of each other, there were sometimes minor storms.

A short time ago, Liza's mother went to hospital. For the first time in the eight years since her husband died, Liza found herself mistress in the house.

She still went out to work each day, scrubbing other people's houses, but now when she came home, she could imagine it was her own home she attended to and not her mother's.

She gave the place a thorough going-over, a kind of out-of-season double-strength spring-clean. She meant to have the place fairly sparkling by the time her mother returned.

Liza had another idea. That she would buy some little thing to wear to match the house's freshness and please her mother. The day before her mother was due to come home, Liza came up to the West End in search of something cheap and cheerful to wear. She found a bright blue jumper, priced at 3s. 11d. She stole the jumper.

£2 9s. A WEEK.

When they caught her, Liza cried: "My mother's coming out of hospital tomorrow, please don't charge me with stealing, let me pay, I'll pay double."

At Marlborough Street next morning, she pleaded guilty to the charge against her they read out.

"Her only income" said the officer in charge of the case to Mr. Paul Bennett, VC, the magistrate, "is her widow's pension of 10s. a week, and £1 19s. she makes by going out scrubbing in the early mornings. I gather her mother is also in poor circumstances. Her son is here and would like to speak to you."

THE SON

Usually in court, it is fathers and mothers who step forward, shy, disappointed, despairing, to speak for sons and daughters who have done wrong. Now, Liza's son, a fresh-faced, worried young man, used just the formula they do: "You couldn't want a better mother," he said. "I humbly ask you, to be lenient."

Liza, tall, and at 58, straight-backed, immensely neat in every particular of her dress, pushed a handkerchief behind her glasses and wiped her eyes to hear her son speak so.

"She's obviously very sorry," said the magistrate, "I'll be lenient as I can." He fined Liza £2 and gave her a fortnight in which to find the money.

Mother and son presently left the court. Two generations hurrying home to welcome back a third. Poverty and love bound the three together, something besides bread these two now, the common bond of a secret shared.

5 NEW DEPUTY PREMIERS

(Continued from Page 1)

as "up and coming" during the Stalin era and were retained as key Ministers in the Cabinet reshuffle on Stalin's death in March.

Ivan Tevosyan, the Soviet Minister of Metallurgical Industry, and now a Deputy Premier, left Moscow for China today at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

Mr. Tevosyan is to take part in the commissioning of the Anshan metallurgical plants in Manchuria, one of the key pieces of China's state plan.

False Claims By GIs

Costing Government
Millions

Washington, Dec. 21.

The US Army plans a nation-wide crack-down next month on soldiers who have been defrauding the Government of millions of dollars through false dependency claims, it was disclosed today.

The crack-down was ordered after Chairman Dewey Short of the House Armed Services Committee told defence officials he was "shocked" at the widespread fraud uncovered in a preliminary Army survey of the so-called "Class Q" allotments for Servicemen's families.

Meanwhile, the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps plan to make their own "preliminary surveys" to see if their people are also guying the Government.

Reliable sources reported that the Navy and Marine Corps in particular had to be "probed" by Short into making such an investigation. Their contention, rejected by Short, was that Services companies, entirely of volunteers would not be likely to have a fraud problem.

Class Q allotments are made to dependents of an enlisted man when the Government is unable to provide adequate living quarters for them. Part of the payment comes from the enlisted man's pay, and the remainder is contributed by the Government.

Most of the frauds uncovered so far by the Army have centered around allotments for secondary dependents, such as parents, as opposed to primary allotments for wives and children.

To qualify for the allotment, the dependent must, rely on the enlisted man for over one-half of his support. In the past, many soldiers have claimed that their parents were dependent on them for financial support when such was not the case.

On the basis of a "sampling" taken during the past several months, the Army had discovered that about 32 per cent of the allotments made within the United States are illegal.

Big Three Strategy Drafted

Paris, Dec. 21.

Senior Western diplomats here today completed the draft to be followed by their chiefs at the "Big Four" Foreign Ministers' meeting expected to be held in Berlin next month.

The general lines of the Western strategy for the Berlin conference was first laid down at the recent Bermuda meeting of President Eisenhower, Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill, French Premier Joseph Laniel and Foreign Minister Georges Bidault.

The group of diplomats working on the draft since last Wednesday were Sir Frank Roberts, Under-Secretary of State at the British Foreign Office, Mr. Douglas MacArthur, Counsellor at the United States State Department, and Mr. Francois Seydoux, head of the Political Section of the French Foreign Ministry.

The Soviet Government, which has not yet replied to the Western powers' suggestion that the Berlin conference begin on January 4, may propose a later date.

Diplomatic quarters here believe the Russians will probably propose a date after January 17, when a new French President is due to take office and a new Government will have to be formed.

Members of the working group declined to discuss their recommendations, but it is believed they also discussed possible Western security guarantees to the Soviet Union.

Diplomatic observers here believe that about a fortnight's discussion with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Vyacheslav Molotov, should make it clear whether the Soviet Union is prepared to reach a genuine settlement on Germany and Austria, or whether the Russians merely agreed to a "Big Four" meeting to block ratification of the European Army Treaty.

First Marian Year Inaugurated



Gordon & Gotch: The Story Of A Century

Gordon and Gotch Ltd., which today claims to be the biggest exporters of magazines and newspapers in the world, celebrates this year its foundation 100 years ago by a 63-year old Scots owner of a small newspaper stand and his driving, energetic young partner in the bustling market-square of Melbourne.

The company has marked the centenary by the publication of "Gordon & Gotch Ltd, the story of the G & G century".

The two founders were Alexander Gordon and John Speechley Gotch, a soldier-of-fortune who had tried his hand at chemistry and dentistry, travelled to America, was shipwrecked in a windmill on Mauritius, landed in Melbourne at the height of the gold rush, found one small nugget and then gored himself with a pick. He hobbled back to Melbourne and there found work at the newsstand of Mr. Gordon.

"If you can sell as many newspapers to the miners on the diggings as I can sell from my market stand, I'll offer you a partnership," said old Gordon one day.

Gotch went back to the diggings and with his tear-away enthusiasm sold out quickly. On his return to Melbourne he announced his success to the delighted old man. The two men painted a sign above their stand: "Gordon and Gotch."

Business prospered and two years later they moved into a shop in Temple Court and within the next ten years, Gotch, in complete control of the business after his older partner had retired to Scotland, expanded and opened offices in Sydney and London.

BEAT OPPOSITION

The staff grew in London from one to 14. A number of British magazines appointed the firm its sole agent in the Melbourne organisation beat its opposition to the newstands in the city and country, time after time.

In Sydney, "two of Gordon and Gotch's representatives would row out off the heads of Port Jackson" to intercept incoming vessels. The newspapers and magazines were thrown overboard into the wharves, then the men would race back and distribution throughout New South Wales had begun before the ships had tied up at the harbour jetties.

In Sydney to push sales, young Gotch tried a "sales stunt" employing blind men with dogs to deliver The Sydney Morning Herald.

"There were often exciting scenes of bustle in the publishing room. Sometimes in the early morning while awaiting the arrival of the papers, the dogs barked and quarrelled among themselves. There were serious dog fights and the blind masters had to lash out with their sticks to restore order. Then when the pandemonium subsided, the men set off on their rounds."

Within 50 years of the foundation, Gordon & Gotch had spread to Brisbane, Queensland and South Africa where Central News Agency took over the G & G branches.

The Gordon & Gotch book tells of a number of war-time experiences as it strove to maintain the flow of British newspapers and magazines throughout the Empire and the fighting fronts.

What's His Line? Solution ESTIMATOR
London Express Service.

His Holiness the Pope, wearing an elbow length scarlet cape over a white woollen cassock, kneels to pray in Rome's Spanish Square. It was part of the ceremony in which the Pope inaugurated the Roman Catholic Church's first Marian year. The apostolic benediction to the City of Rome and the world, was broadcast and, for the first time tele- vised. — London Express.

At a meeting in Tung Choi Street after work on July 23, witness said that they agreed upon a plan to give Ho Kai and his associates a beating.

"They agreed to meet later at Tung Choi Street that evening. Accused was present when they next met, witness continued. Before leaving for Argyle Street, as planned, accused was heard to say, 'You people go first!' Accused wore a white shirt and long khaki trousers.

Battleship Visiting Colony

USS Wisconsin In Junk Bay

Flying the flag of Rear-Admiral Alfred M. Pride, Commander of the United States Seventh Fleet, the USS Wisconsin arrived this morning on a recreational visit to Hongkong.

The 45,000-ton battleship arrived under the command of Captain Michael Flaherty. The Wisconsin is anchoring in Junk Bay for the duration of her visit. She is one of the five largest battleships in the world. The four others of her class are the Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky and the New Jersey. The latter paid a visit to Hongkong in August this year.

The Wisconsin carries a complement of more than 2,000 officers and men. She is 52,000 tons when fully loaded and has an over all length of 887½ feet and a beam of 108 feet.

Among her main armaments are nine 16-inch guns; 20 five-inch guns and numerous anti-aircraft guns.

Admiral Pride, who was awarded the Legion of Merit for his part in the planning and execution of the assault and capture of Okinawa in the last war, succeeded Rear-Admiral Joseph J. Clark as Commander of the 7th Fleet at the beginning of this month.

It is understood that during his visit, her official calls will be kept to the minimum as the Wisconsin is on a purely recreational visit.

On Thursday personnel of the Wisconsin will entertain some 850 to 400 Hongkong underprivileged children at a Christmas Party aboard the battleship. The children, who will be selected from the re-settlement areas, will be conveyed to Junk Bay by ferry from the Peninsula Street Pier and the party will start at 2 p.m.

It is understood that the Hongkong and Kowloon Ferry Company will run excursion ferries to Junk Bay to enable the public to see the battleship.

Two Stowaways In Court

Two Filipinos, who were found on board the American Transport on December 19 while the ship was still at sea, were brought before Mr. T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning and charged with being stowaways.

Defendants, 21-year-old Apollonio Bautista and 22-year-old Rosendo Togado, pleaded guilty and said they had stowed away in Legaspi City, Philippines, because they wanted to look for work in Hongkong.

Mr. Creedon ordered defendants to be placed in the house of detention pending repatriation.

MURDER TRIAL: PARDONED MAN GIVES EVIDENCE

Evidence of a plot by one gang to beat up a rival gang on the night of July 23 was given by Yau Chung-kong, driver employed at Stonecutters Island, who received the Governor's pardon in respect of offences committed by him that night, when hearing of the murder trial against Chan Kau, 26, resumed before Mr Justice C. W. Reece in the Criminal Sessions this morning.

Chan Kau is alleged to have hacked Chan Fook, a former Royal Naval Dockyard employee, to death with a chopper during a fight which took place near the junction of Sai Yeung Choi Street and Argyle Street, Mongkok. Accused is said to belong to neither side, but that he was a friend of the attacking party.

In evidence this morning, Yau Chung-kong said there were two opposing groups employed at Stonecutters. He himself belonged to Mak Hei's party.

He had known accused two months prior to the night of July 23, having met him at Mak Hei's home.

Witness said that there had been many grievances between the two parties.

He remembered the dismissal of Lee Hing who was alleged to have stolen his (witness) pass. After Lee's dismissal, witness alleged that Lee and 15 other persons beat him up at the Jordan Ferry wharf.

Witness said he decided "to return blows" to Ho Kai, Sin Leung-kai and Wong Chung, who belonged to the other party on Stonecutters.

THE BEST GUARANTEE

When Chai Yeung - mung, of 31 Elgin Street, was dismissed on a charge of loitering with intent, "Being a suspected person," by Mr Fakenham-Walsh in Central Court this morning, he still had a worry on his mind, and returned in the middle of the next case to express it.

"What happens if the Police have me up again on the same charge?" he asked.

"You will appear again here and if you are found not guilty the case will be dismissed as it was today," replied the Magistrate.

"But what guarantee have I, an innocent man, that they will not arrest me again and again, whenever they feel like it?"

"I suggest the best guarantee," said Mr Fakenham-Walsh, "would be for you to stop hanging about in crowded places watching people's pockets."

"Thank you sir," said Chai.

EXPECTORATED IN THEATRE

A fine of \$40 was imposed on 24-year-old Wong Mor-lo, unemployed, by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning when Wong pleaded guilty to expectorating three times in the dress circle of the Oriental Theatre.

Inspector W. E. B. Howell, prosecuting, said that "Waterworks Inspector E. L. Porte and his wife sat next to the defendant at an evening show on December 21, and saw Wong spit on the floor three times. Mr. Porte went to the Theatre's office and called the Police who arrested the accused."

Witness said he kept on walking until he reached the junction of Argyle Street and Sai Yeung Choi Street.

"On Sai Yeung Choi Street I saw a man hitting another man with an object which I could not recognise, witness said.

"He could not see clearly, who the assailant was. He suspected him to be the accused, because of the similarity of dress and general physical stature.

The other man was covered with blood. He did not at the time know who he was, but subsequently learned the victim was the deceased.

He was over 50 yards from the two men when he first saw them, said witness.

Deceased tried to support himself leaning against a pillar.

The assailant fled in the direction of Mongkok.

Witness said he became frightened and proceeded to Fa Hui Village, residence of a friend of theirs.

Members of his party were already there, including the accused, and during a conversation, one of the men (Lau Bee) told him, "Chan Kau chopped a man once," witness said.

Accused was near him, but he did not know whether accused heard the allegation or not.

Witness said he heard Sor Wing say to accused, "Now, Chan Kau, you have chopped a person." Accused replied, "It is too bad, we must pull out this time."

Accused left shortly afterwards, after changing his white shirt into a white vest or singlet.

CROSS-EXAMINED

In cross-examination, witness agreed that in the fight on the previous occasion, accused did not take part. Accused also was a member of his (witness) gang.

Witness said he did not see a pole or any other object used during the fight.

He agreed that members of his own gang wore either Hawallah shirts or sports shirts. Their colour was either white or check.

Only one blow was struck by the assailant, so far as he could see, witness said.

In reply to another question, witness said he did not see

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere, which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times, can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars respecting parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

By Air
India-China, 6 p.m.
Thailand, 6 p.m.
Middle East, 6 p.m.
Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 6 p.m.

By Surface
Thailand, 3 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

By Air
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 6 p.m.
India, Pakistan, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 8 a.m.
Formosa, Japan, U.S.A. and Japan, 6 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.
Philippines, 6 p.m.

By Surface
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Macao, 9 a.m.
Formosa, 8 a.m.
India, Pakistan, 1 p.m.
Korea, 2 p.m.
Malaya, Ceylon, Aden, Middle East, Great Britain and Europe, 2 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.
Time Signal and Programme Summary: 6.05. Melody with the Stars: 8.30. BBC Bandstand. The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain, cond. by Eric Ball (BBCTS). 9.30. Weather Report. 10.15. The News (London Relay). 11.15. Interlude for Rhythm. The Malcolm Lockyer Quartet (BBCS). 12.30. Forces Favourites (London Relay). (Studio). Demi-Heure. Hearing presented by Bernard Hicks (Studio). 9. Time Signal. Musical Notebook presented by the Rev. Father, T. F. Ryan S.J. (Studio). 12.30. Personality. The story of the life of a man, written and produced by Kenneth Pooleman (BBCS). (Studio). At the Ballet. Copeland (Dolbey). Roger Determiers conducting L'Orchestra De La Societe Des Concerts Du Conservatoire de Paris. 10.55. Weather Report. 11. Time Signal. Radio News Reel (Goodnight Music). God Save the Queen: 11.50. Close Down.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"You had a big red wart on your nose last year, Santa! Did you have it operated on?"

Printed and published by W. W. WILKINSON, at the "CHINA MAIL" Press, Limited, at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.